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# Saipan Tribune

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## OPINION METER

This week's poll:

Should periodic drug testing be made mandatory for all law enforcement personnel?

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## INSIDE

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An explosion at a feed plant in Omaha kills two people. ➤ **PAGE 15**

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Iran unplugs banks of centrifuges involved in its uranium enrichment work. ➤ **PAGE 17**

### LIFE & STYLE



Anne Hathaway dismisses reports of near drowning. ➤ **PAGE 20**

# Interest raises unpaid land claims to \$100M

» **Governor among over 300 landowners waiting payment**

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
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REPORTER

A 3 percent interest compounded yearly is raising the CNMI government's unpaid compensation to some \$100 million for more than 300 families whose lands were taken to build public access roads, wetlands, and ponding basins years ago, records obtained by *Saipan Tribune* on Monday and Tuesday show.

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## UNDER 2008 LOCAL LAW

### 8 Kannat Tabla landowners paid in 2013

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
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REPORTER

A local law signed in May 2008 by former governor Benigno R. Fitial resulted in the 2013 payments of land claims for eight families in Kannat Tabla totaling almost \$164,800, Department of Public Lands records obtained yesterday show.

The payments were made between June 19 and Aug. 22 last year.

See **LANDOWNERS** on **Page 4**

## Inos to reprogram funds for random drug tests

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
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REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos said yesterday his administration will reprogram funds to ensure government random drug tests will be administered this year, following reports that not even law enforcement personnel got randomly tested in at least a year as required by law because of lack of funds.

Office of Personnel Management director Isidro Seman said OPM needs

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## USS *McCampbell* visits Saipan

By CHRIS CAVAGNARO  
Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class  
USS MCCAMPBELL PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS *McCampbell* arrived on Saipan yesterday for a port visit while on patrol in the 7th Fleet's area of responsibility.

"*McCampbell*'s visit to Saipan is an excellent opportunity for the crew to experience another wonderful port in our AOR," said Cmdr. Sharif Calfee, *McCampbell*'s commanding officer. "The ship visited Saipan in September 2012, and the crew very much enjoyed that liberty opportunity as well as the community service projects with the town."

*McCampbell* will participate in a community service project and sport-

ing events, as well as provide ship tours to business and civic leaders during its stay on Saipan, which is the main island of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Community service projects, or COMSERVs, constitute an important avenue to educate *McCampbell*'s sailors of Saipan's colorful past and distinct culture while also allowing them to contribute to the community.

"Community service projects are a very important aspect of any port visit," said Calfee. "These projects facilitate fantastic opportunities for the crew to directly interact with the community in a very meaningful, personal, and important way that enhances relationships between our

See **USS** on **Page 4**

Sailors aboard the Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS *McCampbell* raise the jack-staff as the ship arrives on Saipan for a port visit. *McCampbell* is on patrol in the 7th Fleet area of operations supporting security and stability in the Indo-Asia-Pacific region.

U.S. NAVY/CHRIS CAVAGNARO



19 take their oath as newest U.S. citizens. **PAGE 2**  
2 charges vs Buckingham dismissed. **PAGE 4**



## Local

## Alabama judge keynotes naturalization ceremony

» **19 take their oath as newest U.S. citizens**

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
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REPORTER

Helen Shores Lee, a circuit judge with the 10<sup>th</sup> Judicial Court of Alabama, was the keynote speaker at yesterday's naturalization ceremony in the U.S. District Court for the NMI.

Lee said it is a privilege and honor to be the first one to congratulate the 19 newest U.S. citizens.

"Today we celebrate the American dream," said Lee at the naturalization ceremony that was also called "Martin Luther King Jr. ceremony."

She said much of King's dreams had been realized, but there's a lot more to be done. She reminded the newest U.S. citizens that they have responsibilities to uphold the principles of equality, freedom, and democracy.

"I hope you choose to be involved," Lee said. "Choose to make a positive contribution to the community you live."

Lee became the first African-American woman to serve in the Civil Division of the Circuit



10th Judicial Court of Alabama Circuit Judge Helen Shores Lee, seated right, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona, seated second from right, Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan, left, and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services officer Diane Zedde, second from left, pose with the 19 newest U.S. citizens after yesterday's naturalization ceremony.

Court of Jefferson County.

Lee is on island as a guest speaker of the Northern Marianas Humanities Council's special program to mark Martin Luther King Jr. Day in the CNMI on Monday at the American Memorial Park Theater. She will make a series of presentations at

public and private high schools and give a continuing legal education presentation to members of the CNMI Bar Association, among other activities.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona administered the oath to the 19 new U.S. citizens. Del-

egate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan also joined the ceremony.

Inspired by Lee's speech, Aurora Dupitas Desebel, 65, told *Saipan Tribune* shortly after the ceremony that she is very proud to be a U.S. citizen and that she will follow the law and get involved in the community.

Desebel, who is a native of Tarlac, the Philippines, said she will exercise her right to vote and enjoy the benefits of being a U.S. citizen.

Desebel first came to Saipan in 1992, and was engaged in the fishing business. She is married to Ignacio Desebel. She cur-

rently works as a customer care representative at IT&E.

Susan Romare Fujihira, 49, also a native of the Philippines, said she is happy and proud to be an American citizen and she need not worry anymore about the hassles of

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SPORTS

**JANUARY-MARCH 2014 EDITION**  
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# Robbery suspect Villagomez's alleged conspirator falls

## »Cell phone left at the scene leads to ID of suspects

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
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REPORTER

The alleged conspirator of robbery suspect Manuel Jones Villagomez owned up to the police and was arrested in Garapan Friday afternoon.

Benwachi Nicky Taisakan, 27, was arrested for robbery, conspiracy, and disturbing the

peace. Villagomez, 39, who faces the same charges, surrendered to the Department of Public Safety in Susupe Friday morning.

According to a police report, detectives identified the suspects after Taisakan's cell phone fell as the boyfriend of the victim was chasing him.

At a hearing yesterday, Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio imposed a \$50,000 cash bail for each of the suspects. In addition, Kim-Tenorio imposed a \$100 cash bail for Taisakan for a pending traffic case.

Preliminary hearing for both suspects will be on Jan. 28.

Assistant public defender Benjamin Petersburg appeared as counsel for Villagomez. The court will appoint a private lawyer for Taisakan.

Police detective Roque K. Camacho stated in his report that a police officer responded on Dec. 3 at 1:14am to a reported robbery incident in front of Aquarius Hotel, south of Garapan Elementary School.

Camacho said that two tourists were walking to their hotel when someone came up from behind them and grabbed the female tourist's purse.

The suspect ran toward the 99 Cents Store. The boyfriend

chased the suspect, who then hopped on an SUV that was moving slowly. The male tourist tried to get the car's license plate, but the SUV made a right turn heading south. The male tourist, however, recovered a cellular phone that fell from the suspect.

The female tourist stated that her purse contained \$900 cash, two passports, an iPhone 5, credit cards, and hotel key.

Crime scene technicians got hold of the cell phone and a pair of Scotts slippers that was also found at the scene. A crime scene technician opened the phone and identified the picture

on the wallpaper as Taisakan.

In an interview with detectives on Jan. 13, Taisakan allegedly admitted he was the one who grabbed the purse from the tourist and that the driver of the getaway vehicle was Villagomez.

Camacho said that, according to Taisakan, Villagomez picked him up at his house in Koblerville and they both smoked methamphetamine or "ice." As they were smoking, Villagomez allegedly stated he really needs money because he used the money his girlfriend gave him.

Taisakan claimed that they drove to Garapan, where Vil-

lagomez instructed him to grab a tourist's bag. Taisakan said he repeatedly refused to do it because he was scared but Villagomez insisted.

Taisakan said he gave the purse to Villagomez, who then dropped him off at his house.

Camacho said he later showed Taisakan a photo of the cell phone and the pair of Scotts slippers that were left behind at the scene.

Camacho said that Taisakan admitted owning the cell phone and the slippers.

The detective said that further investigation revealed that Villagomez's girlfriend owns a gray/silver Nissan Pathfinder that, according to Taisakan, was the one they used for the robbery.

## 'Proposed disconnection fees will cost PSS \$45K'

### »'Potential hike in late charges will increase schools' penalties 10-fold'

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
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REPORTER

With not enough money to pay for this year's utility consumption, public schools will be faced with an even bigger deficit if the proposed higher fees the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. wants to implement goes in effect.

Public School System finance director Derek Sasamoto disclosed that just for CUC's recommended disconnection fee of \$15, public schools would have to find an extra \$45,000 to cover the cost.

Saipan Tribune learned that the system has 250 meters billed each month. If the \$15 disconnection fee is factored in, this would cost at least \$3,750 per month to PSS, or approximately \$45,000 per year.

"Currently in our budget, we really can't afford to pay this," said Sasamoto.

The system only has a budget

of \$2.3 million for its utilities this fiscal year. This amount is far lower than what public schools actually consumed in the previous year, which is about \$4 million. With the reclassification of water and wastewater rates this fiscal year, the projected utility cost is over \$2 million.

Besides this potential increase in disconnection fees, Sasamoto said that PSS is also faced with the challenge of finding funds to cover the potential increase in late fees assessed schools.

CUC wants to increase its late charge from the current 1 percent of the past due amount to 10 percent of the past due.

"If this goes through, it will bring major impact to PSS because it is a 10-fold increase [over what we're currently paying in late fees]," said Sasamoto.

This, he said, is on top of a proposed hike in the electric base rate from 12.4 cents per

kWh to 13 cents per kWh.

"This means all our bills in terms of base rate will go up by 5 percent in every school and in the central office," he said.

Sasamoto also noted the surcharge recommended by CUC to pay its obligations to Pacific Marine Industrial Corp. CUC wants an additional 21 cents per kWh to be assessed to its customers to cover this cost.

"There's also the PMIC surcharge that is equal to additional 21 cents per kWh to our bills. The reason for this surcharge: CUC entered a contract with the PMIC and there's penalty clause that says if CUC prematurely terminates the agreement it would be charged penalties to the tune of millions of dollars. But CUC went ahead and terminated the contract prematurely, incurring \$4.1 million in penalties, which they now want to pass on to the ratepayers," said Sasamoto.

## COTA: Public-private partnership key to CNMI-Guam ferry service

By **MARK RABAGO**  
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

While fully supporting Guam Sen. Tina Rose Muna Barnes' resolution to create a ferry service between Guam and the CNMI, the Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority said that venture would need a strong partnership between the public and private sectors in order to succeed.

In his written testimony in yesterday's public hearing at the Guam Legislature, special assistant for public transportation Thomas J. Camacho said the CNMI supports the initial financing plan for a feasibility study of the Rota-Guam Ferry Boat System.

"Unlike previous privately operated passenger-only ferry service between Tinian and Saipan, it's essential for a study to include a Financial Service Plan that recommends financing and one that provides optional financing of the management and operations of such a system; however, we recommend public-private partnership where the government (GRTA and COTA) own 51 percent including the vehicles and regulate the operation while 49 percent is privately operated and maintenance under a service contract agreement," he said.

GRTA stands for Guam Regional Transit Authority.

Camacho, who testified in behalf of Gov. Eloy S. Inos, added that public-private partnerships will be necessary and should be encouraged to sustain an auto/passenger ferry service in the CNMI and the region.

"There must be a convergence between private passenger boat operators who provide sterling customer service and the experience and skill of marine labor," he said.

The COTA chief said that ferry service provides an alternative to air travel, as inter-island commuter service for work, allows delivery service via mini delivery trucks and vans, is a tourist attraction, and plays an important role in emergency preparedness.

Camacho said other benefits of a public transit system is that it enhances personal opportunities such as the mobility and freedom for people from every walks of life, creates jobs and provides access to job opportunities.

"Public transportation provides economic opportunities, for example, for every dollar communities invest in public transportation generates approximately \$4 in economic returns. Money invested in public transportation also supports and

creates hundreds to thousands of job, transit capital investment increases business sales, and transit operating investments yield increased business sales."

Camacho said there's no doubt that the CNMI-Guam ferry system is and will remain an important part of the region's transportation systems.

"Most especially with our current situation on Rota, water travel will be and is a necessity for residents of the islands of Guam and the CNMI. The reality is, there's much work and many challenges lie ahead; but we also believe that collaborating as one Marianas, we can overcome, succeed, and make this plan a reality, a system that will be designed to serve and connect our two islands as one Marianas, a model for the Pacific Island nation."

Barnes' Resolution 279-32 calls for the Guam Legislature to support the promotion of an affordable alternative regional transportation between Guam and the CNMI by means of a ferry service or other similar passenger and cargo service.

Aside from Camacho, other CNMI officials that attended yesterday's public hearing at the Guam Legislature were Rota Mayor Melchor Mendiola and Rota resident Martin Mendiola.

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## 2 charges vs Buckingham dismissed

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
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REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth Govendo dismissed yesterday two of the 12 charges filed against former attorney general Edward T. Buckingham.

Govendo dismissed with prejudice two charges of misconduct in public office after Office of the Public Auditor legal counsel George L. Hasselback asked for these charges' dismissal.

Dismissal with prejudice

means the charges cannot be re-opened.

Govendo said the two charges related to a contract.

The judge set for Tuesday a hearing on Buckingham's motion to dismiss the remaining 10 charges and a motion to suppress fruits of a search.

The bench trial will on Feb. 10. The original trial date was Feb. 3.

Hasselback made the request to dismiss the two charges after Buckingham, through counsel Richard W. Pierce, filed a mo-

tion to dismiss all 12 counts.

In the CNMI government's reply, Hasselback opposed the motion to dismiss the 10 charges. He moved to dismiss counts 5 and 12, misconduct in public office.

With respect to the two charges, Hasselback said the government has determined after further review of the current law of the CNMI regarding the duties of the AG such as certification of the CNMI's "capacity" to contract, that "it is in the best interest of justice" to dismiss the

two counts.

Hasselback said that contrary to Buckingham's assertion, the Commonwealth never sought to criminalize legal opinions, whether they were open to reasonable debate, patently incorrect, or somewhere in between.

On the contrary, he said the Commonwealth sought to hold a public official—in this case, the top attorney of the CNMI—criminally liable for willfully and knowingly providing legal opinions that he knew were contrary to CNMI law.

"The Commonwealth intended to prove that, despite

knowing that certain contracts were contrary to CNMI law, and having been told as much by subordinate attorneys who were assigned the task of determining the legality of those contracts, the then attorney general certified that those contracts complied with all applicable CNMI laws and regulations in that the CNMI had the legal capacity to enter into those contracts," he said.

Hasselback said having proven this, the Commonwealth in-

tended to argue that this course of behavior violated the law and that he should be found guilty of the crime of misconduct in public office.

However, he said, after further review of the current law, the Commonwealth decided to dismiss the two charges.

OPA filed 12 criminal charges against Buckingham in connection with an alleged violation of election laws and illegal awards of a sole-source contract, among others.

## USS

From Page 1

sailors and our hosts."

*McC Campbell* sailors will also get some well-deserved time off to experience all the island has to offer.

"I'm really looking forward to some [time off] with my with my friends on Saipan," said Fire Controlman 3rd Class Joshua Dent, from Tucson, Ariz. "Much like every place I've visited since I joined the Navy, I can't wait to go to the beach, try the food and explore."

Other *McC Campbell* sailors plan to make the most of their time on Saipan through events organized by the ship's Morale, Welfare and Recreation committee. These activities range from historical tours of significant World War II sites to scuba diving, snorkeling, and a jungle mystery drive through the lush landscape to explore caves and the stunning cliffs around the island.

*McC Campbell* is part of Destroyed Squadron 15, which is forward-deployed to Yokosuka, Japan, supporting security and stability in the Indo-Asia-Pacific region.

## INOS

From Page 1

"at least \$14,000 to \$15,000 a year" to administer random drug testing.

The governor believes the amount estimated by OPM is a "drop in the bucket," and not funding the program is not worth the risk especially among law enforcement agencies.

"I think we should just go

ahead and cut off some areas and just go with the random testing. That goes for every law enforcement agency," Inos told *Saipan Tribune* at the Mount Carmel Diocesan Curia where he signed a proclamation declaring Jan. 27 to Feb. 1 Catholic Schools Week.

Inos said determining which agency, who, and when they will be required to undergo drug tests should be random.

Police officers have figured in

drug-related cases and reports but even that did not prompt the government to set aside funds to ensure police officers get tested for drugs.

The Legislature has also not appropriated a single cent to ensure OPM is able to administer random drug testing.

Each drug test costs some \$30.

Without actual governor's re-programming of funds, only the Department of Public Works is

expected to have its personnel undergo random drug testing after DPW transferred \$700 to OPM for the specific purpose.

OPM's Seman said random drug testing is also especially important among personnel holding safety-sensitive positions such as those operating heavy equipment and school buses.

Seman confirmed Friday that not one agency had been subjected to random drug testing last year over lack of funds.

## LANDOWNERS

From Page 1

Former representative David M. Apatang introduced in February 2008 House Local Bill 16-1 re-appropriating \$200,344 to go toward compensating landowners at the Kannat Tabla area for public road access or right-of-way, among other things. Three months later, Fitial signed HLB 16-1, Substitute 1, Draft 2 into Saipan Local

Law 16-1.

Five years later, eight Kannat Tabla landowners got paid from under that local law, DPL records show.

A Pinaula family was paid \$67,085.27 for 365 square meters of land. The principal amount was \$39,032, while the 3 percent compounding annual interest was \$28,053.27.

The second largest payment was made to an Agulto family with \$31,414.85 for 504 square meters of land. The principal amount was \$18,278, while the

3 percent annual interest was \$13,136.85.

The government paid \$30,741.11 to an Agulto family. Of that amount, \$17,886 was for the principal and \$12,855.11 for interest.

A Deleon Guerrero family got paid \$25,694.94 for 575 square meters of land. That's \$14,950 for the principal amount and \$10,744.94 for the interest.

The government paid \$4,585.56 to a Reyes family for 92 square meters of land. That's \$2,668 for principal and

\$1,917.56 for interest.

A Bowie family got paid \$2,492.15, inclusive of \$1,450 in principal amount and \$1,042.15 in interest.

A Borja family received \$1,402.48 for 27 square meters of land. That includes \$816 in principal and \$586.48 in interest.

An Echaluse family, meanwhile, got the lowest amount of \$1,374.98 for 25 square meters of land. Of that amount, \$800 was for the principal amount, and \$574.98 in interest.

## ALABAMA

From Page 2

traveling off-island.

Fijihira first came to the island in 1994, working as a gas attendant. She is married to Thomas Fujihira for seven years now. At present, she works as a cashier at Kanoa Resort.

The 17 other new U.S. citizens are Reynaldo Abrenica Rafanan, Rouf Abdur, Tina Cereta Anglin, Jocelyn Tupas Atalig, Norlyn Pintor Cabrera,

Qinghui Chen-Engelhart, Marcelina Hermitano Baysa, Julie Centina Hall, Ariuntungalang Barbaatar Lamarche, Ningning Li, Louisa Tinan Moolang, Dolores Bacani Muna, Aida Ballersteros Pangelinan, Yaowapha Chaphoophuang Rabauliman, Nelly Imperial Sanchez, Romeo Rivera Sanchez, and Sydie Panisales Taisacan.

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services officer Diane Zedde presented to the court the 19 petitioners, who are mostly from the Philippines.

## INTEREST

From Page 1

Many of these lots ranged in size from only 1 square meter to close to 7,000 square meters.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos, based on government records, is among the over 300 landowners still waiting for land compensation as a result of the government's taking of their private property for public use.

Inos has 31 square meters of private land in Kannat Tabla that the government took for right-of-way or public access road. The government certified the acquisition of the land on Sept. 26, 1996, long before Inos became a lieutenant governor or governor.

"Yes I am also waiting," the governor told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview at a proclamation signing yesterday morning.

Eight landowners also in Kannat Tabla got compensated last year for amounts ranging from \$1,374.98 to \$67,085.27, under Saipan Local Law 16-1.

Some families—including the Faligs in Chalan Savana or Wireless on Saipan—had to wait for over a decade to get compensated by the government for only 1 square meter of property taken for public road

access.

DPL records show that close to 200 Saipan landowners are still waiting for government compensation for road or right-of-way projects as of 2013.

### Smallest land taken

A Manglona family in Nang Ocha has the smallest land taken by the government at 0.54 square meter, certified in June 2001, for road project. For such a small portion of land taken, the government has yet to pay a penny for 13 years.

Other families are also waiting for decades to get paid for the government's taking of 2 to 10 square meters of their property; some of them since 1993.

While these land sizes are too small compared to the hundreds and thousands of square meters taken from other landowners, they also incur a 3 percent per annum compounding interest.

### 3-percent interest

Ramon S. Salas, Land Claims Division director at the Department of Public Lands, said yesterday that the 3 percent compounding interest raises the government's total unpaid land compensation to \$100 million.

He said the principal amount is only a fraction of that.

The governor also pointed to

the accrued interest yearly, on top of the lack of funding for the principal amount owed.

"Part of the problem too is these judgments, these claims accrue interest at a rate higher than what you would normally earn if you put your money in a time deposit in the bank so that inflates the [government] obligation," Inos said.

Based on DPL records, for example, a Pinaula family in Kannat Tabla was paid \$67,085.27 in July 2013 for 365 square meters of their land that the government took for public road access right-of-way. Over \$28,000 of the amount they received is for the 3 percent annual compounding interest alone, and the principal amount was only \$39,032.

An Echaluse family who was originally owed only \$800 for 25 square meters of land in Kannat Tabla ended up receiving \$1,374.98 from the government in June 2013.

The bigger the land size and the greater the principal amount, the larger the 3 percent compounding annual interest becomes.

Based on DPL records, the earliest date when the government certified the taking of land from a Palacios family in Gualo Rai for right-of-way purpose

was in November 1988.

### Breakdown

DPL's Salas also said that based on the department's records, there are 191 Saipan private landowners still waiting to get paid for the government's taking of their property for road or right-of-way purpose, while 12 are for ponding basin on Saipan, 25 for wetlands also on Saipan, and 105 on Rota for right-of-way or road projects.

"The question is whether we should continue the 3 percent compounding interest? To be fair, the department has been continuing that. It's unfair for those who have not been paid yet to lose the 3 percent, when those who already got paid got the 3 percent interest. The former Marianas Public Lands Authority board decided to grant the 3 percent interest per annum but it's not based on law. We are still discussing this," Salas said.

DPL has listed by Saipan villages the names of landowners still waiting for compensation for lands used for right-of-way or public access roads.

The 14-page list includes lands taken in Achugao, Afetna, San Vicente-Airport Road, As Lito, As Mahetog, As Perdido, As Teo, Beach Road-Garapan, Capital Hill, Chalan Galaide,

Chalan Kanoa-Susupe, Chalan Kanoa, Chalan Kiya, Chalan Lau Lau, Chalan Monsignor Guerrero, Chalan Pale Arnold, CPA-Phase VI, Chalan Savana or Wireless, Dandan, Fina Sisu, Gualo Rai, I-Denni, Iiyan, Kannat Tabla, Nang Ocha, Navy Hill, Papago, Sadog Dogas, Sadog Tasi, San Vicente, South Garapan, Talofoto, Tapochau, and Texas Road.

The largest private land taken—6,978 square meters—that the government has yet to pay belongs to the heir of a Diaz matriarch in Chalan Monsignor Guerrero. The government certified the land taking in October 1990.

The government has yet to pay a Tenorio family for 6,385 square meters of land in San Vicente-Airport Road. The DPL list does not state when the government certified the taking for this particular land.

### 'Priority among priorities'

The governor separately said yesterday that paying land compensation "is a priority among other priorities."

Just like his predecessor, Inos has been receiving letters from families notifying the administration of their plan to block public access roads if their demand for at least a portion of their land compensation is not paid.

"I hope it doesn't go there, that would be civil disobedience. We are trying. The Legislature is equally responsible for this. The issue is not really complicated. It's just trying to find the source of funding," he said.

Members of the House Ways and Means and Natural Resources Committees met last week with dozens of families who are still waiting for land compensation. They also called in government agency heads such as Attorney General Joey Patrick San Nicolas, Finance Secretary Larrisa Larson, Public Works Secretary Martin Sablan and DPL's Salas.

Based on earlier records obtained, the CNMI government paid families anywhere between \$100,000 and \$4.4 million each in exchange for the taking of their property for public roads, ponding basin, and wetlands. This, even as over 300 other families have yet to see even a penny after years or decades of waiting.

In all, the government paid 138 landowners a total of almost \$28.5 million, with the money coming from a \$40 million bond that was floated supposedly to pay land claims. The remaining \$11 million went to the construction of an adult prison in Susupe.



# 55 pct. of Head Start kids above their ideal BMIs

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

More than half of students enrolled in the CNMI Head Start Program have been found to weigh above their ideal body mass index, or BMI, for their age while tooth decay remains a recurring problem, based on the latest program data submitted to the Board of Education.

BMI is a number calculated from a person's weight and height. It provides a reliable indicator of body fatness for most people and is used to screen for weight categories that may lead to health problems.

Board of Education vice chair

Lucy Blanco-Maratita disclosed that 55 percent of over 400 enrolled in the Head Start program are above their body mass index. Of that chunk, 62 percent are boys and 48 percent are girls.

"To me this is a serious matter. Have we incorporated something in the action plan or curriculum to address this issue?" asked Blanco-Maratita.

She pointed out the need to track record and see if initiatives implemented for the program are having an effect in resolving this matter.

According to Head Start director Melissa Palacios, the program has a lot of activities both in and out of the classroom

that support a healthy lifestyle. Embedded in the daily curriculum is an additional 15-minute outdoor activity for children and close collaboration with the Public School System's Food and Nutrition Program Services as well as initiatives that connect with the children's families.

This is on top of students being found with recurring tooth decay, Blanco-Maratita said.

She said 43 percent students have tooth decay and 8 percent need extraction. But due to the non-availability yet of dental services, the problem may worsen in the coming days, she said.

"Tooth decay is a big is-

sue with our kids. Every year, we look at the number and it's pretty big," she said. "The data doesn't look like it is improving that much."

Palacios said she is constantly communicating with the Division of Public Health on the issue of dental services. However, there is yet no time-frame as to when the division will begin providing services to schoolchildren.

"We coordinated our schedule [with DPH] and they're in the process of putting together their logistics," she said.

According to Jackie Quitugua, PSS Associate Commissioner For Instructional

Services, PSS has a standing memorandum of understanding with DPH that allows it to provide services to students from Head Start up to the third grade levels.

She assured that PSS will continue track its data and enhance its focus on initiatives to address the issue.

## Lead screening

Head Start program officials also disclosed that a large number of their enrollees were not tested for lead last program year due to parents who refused to have their children screened.

Of the 286 students who were initially screened, two were found with high levels of lead and were referred to doctors for more testing.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that screening is only done among first entry students. It was learned that 21 parents specifically rejected the screening for their kids last year.

## Waitlist

Based on the latest PSS data, the Head Start program had

102 children on its wait list as of December.

Head Start is a federally funded program that is mandated to enroll 462 kids every year. Enrollment in November was at 461; that went down to 456 in December.

It was disclosed that during the last two months, some students withdrew from the program due to relocation and transportation issues.

For each vacant slot, Head Start has to fill them within 30 days.

The program's attendance rate is compliant with federal standards of 85 percent. Records show that the attendance rate in November was 86.45 percent while December was at 85.92 percent.

# Governor urges lawmakers to include fund sources, exact amounts in bills

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**  
haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos signed Friday a local bill re-appropriating \$8,791 in poker fees originally intended for pedestrian crosswalks for the repair of dilapidated bus shelters on Precinct 1. This was followed yesterday by another local law renaming Hagoi Road as "Knight Street" in honor of Mount Carmel School's 61st anniversary.

The governor, in signing Rep. Tony Sablan's (Ind-Saipan) House Local Bill 18-39, encouraged members of the CNMI Legislature and their staff to ensure the inclusion in future bills of "details" with respect to sources of funds and/or the exact amounts of public funding that will be used to achieve their legislative purposes and goals.

Otherwise, there is a risk that such pieces of legislation will be vetoed, he said.

Inos said he supports HLB 18-39's intent but he signed it "with reservation" because the bill "does not reference a specific amount of money to be used for the purposes for which this law was enacted."

The bill instead only references the balance of funds remaining in Business Unit 33950 or Saipan Local Law 17-9.

Upon further research, Inos said he has learned that within the particular business account, there remains \$8,791 available to be used to repair bus shelters in Precinct 1.

"Therefore, funding for this project cannot exceed the amount and this limitation should have been included in the legislation because no alternative sources of funding have been identified," the governor said in his Jan. 17 transmittal letter to Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation chair Rep. Ray Tebuteb (Ind-Saipan) and House Speaker Joseph DeLeon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan).

Sablan's local bill is now Saipan Local Law 18-9.

Sablan, when sought for comment yesterday, said he understands the governor's

concerns but assured him that spending will be limited to what's available.

"I believe the \$8,791 is suffi-

cient for what we wanted to do," the House Ways and Means Committee chairman said.

Sablan said the bill would help ensure the safety and health of school children in Precinct 1, including those going to and from schools in San Antonio and Kolblerville.

He said when a local bill was being introduced in the previ-

ous Legislature with a provision to set aside poker fees for the construction of Precinct 1 pedestrian cross walk, his office sought price

quotation from the Department of Public Works for the project.

But after the bill was already passed and signed into law, DPW came back to say that they could

build the cross walks using federal highway safety funds, Sablan said. This prompted him to introduce a local bill re-appropriating the money for bus

shelter repairs in Precinct 1.

Meanwhile, the governor also signed into law yesterday House floor leader Ralph Demapan (Cov-Saipan) and Rep. John Paul Sablan's (Cov-Saipan) HLB 18-29 into Saipan Local Law 18-10.

The new local law renames Hagoi Road in Chalan Kanoa as "Knight Street," in honor of Mount Carmel School's 61st anniversary in 2013.

The governor signed this new local law while also signing yesterday morning a proclamation declaring Jan. 27 to Feb. 1, 2014 Catholic Schools Week, at the Mount Carmel Diocesan Curia.

## » 2 new local laws on bus shelter repairs, renaming street in honor of Mount Carmel



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
**COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**  
PO Box 502149; Saipan, MP 96950  
Tel: (670) 234-6245/6293/7145/7146 Fax: (670) 235-7147



## NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING

### ON AN APPLICATION FOR A QUALIFYING CERTIFICATE AUTHORIZING THE ABATEMENT AND REBATE OF CERTAIN CNMI TAXES

#### PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that:

**A. Public hearing.** In accordance with the Investment Incentive Act of 2000, as amended, and pursuant to the rule-making procedures of the Administrative Procedures Act, the Commonwealth Development Authority (CDA) will conduct a public hearing at the Governor Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center, Susupe, Saipan, on Wednesday, January 29, 2014, at 10:30 a.m. on the application of Sea Touch, LLC, Applicant, for a Qualifying Certificate, which request is for tax relief by way of abatement and rebate of CNMI taxes in consideration of Applicant's proposed business that will engage in interactive marine activities, marine animal encounters and other associated activities, all pursuant to the Investment Incentive Act of 2000, as amended, and as set out in the Applicant's application for a Qualifying Certificate.

**B. Nature of hearing.** This hearing shall be open to the public. Oral or written statements will be received from anyone wishing to testify thereat, which statement will be incorporated into the records of the hearing.

**C. Further information.** For further information, please contact CDA at the above telephone numbers or visit its offices at the CDA Building in San Jose, Saipan.

/s/ Manuel A. Sablan  
Executive Director

**NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION**

**INVITATION FOR BID**  
*(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds.)*

BID SUBMISSION DATE: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2014 • TIME: 10:00 AM

**NMHC IFB 2014-001**

**"The Expansion of the Division of Youth Services Shelter"**

Proposal packets will be available on Wednesday, January 22, 2014, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays. A non-refundable payment of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) is required for each set. Payment shall be by cash, credit card, money order or cashier's check (payable to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation).

A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 30, 2014, at the NMHC Conference Room, Saipan.

This project is funded by a grant from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), under its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

/s/ Marcie M. Tomokane  
Board Chairwoman & Contracting Officer

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director  
Division of Procurement & Supply

Michael Norita Evangelista (Bar No. F-0364)  
Attorney-at-Law  
LAW OFFICE OF  
MICHAEL NORITA EVANGELISTA, LLC.  
Suite 2-C Sablan Building,  
Beach Road, Chalan Kanoa  
PO Box 5600 CHRB, Saipan, MP 96950  
Tel. No. 670-234-9005/6  
Fax No. 670-235-9007

Attorney for Petitioner Derek John Hocog

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

IN RE THE ESTATE OF: ) CIVIL ACTION  
PIA TAIMAÑO HOCOG ) NO. 14-0012  
Deceased. ) NOTICE OF  
HEARING AND  
NOTICE TO  
CREDITORS

**TO: CREDITORS AND INTERESTED CLAIMANTS**

Notice is hereby given that Derek John T. Hocog of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, has filed a petition in the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands for Letters of Administration and to be appointed as Administrator of the Estate of Pia Taimaño Hocog, deceased, and to determine the heirs of the decedent. The attorney of record is Michael N. Evangelista, Esq., P.O. Box 5600 CHRB, Saipan MP 96950. The hearing on the petition is set for the 4th day of February, 2014, at 1:30 p.m. in Courtroom 223A at the Commonwealth Superior Court, located at the House of Justice - Guma Hustisia - Imwal Aweewe, Susupe, in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All interested persons should appear at this hearing.

All persons having any objection to the petition or having any claim against the estate or against the deceased should file the same with the Clerk of Court of Superior Court within sixty (60) days after the first publication of this notice.

Dated this 14th day of January, 2014, on Saipan, CNMI.

/s/ Clerk of Court

LAW OFFICES OF S. JOSHUA BERGER  
D'TORRES BUILDING, GARAPAN  
P.O. Box 504340  
SAIPAN, MP 96950  
Phone (670) 235-8060 Fax 235-8070

Attorney for Plaintiff

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

**NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS RETIREMENT FUND,**  
Plaintiff,

v.

**MICHAEL MANGLONA OGO and CLARA BERNICE S. OGO,**  
Defendants.

**CIVIL ACTION NO.: 12-0267(R)**

**NOTICE OF FORE CLOSURE SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on November 22, 2013, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth herein below, all of the right and interests of Defendants in and to the following real property:

Lot No. 345 R 236, containing an area of 909 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 345 R 05, the original of which, was recorded on May 14, 1984 as Document No. 84-0751 at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office.

**1. Date, Time and Place of Sale.** The sale is open to the general public (including the Defendants), and will be held on **Thursday, January 23, 2014, at the hour of 2:00 p.m. at the entrance to the Law Offices of S. Joshua Berger, D'Torres Bldg, Middle Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI.** Registration for the auction sale will begin at 1:45 p.m.

**2. Change of Terms and Conditions.** The undersigned reserves the right to change the terms hereof by announcement, written or oral, before the auction date and time or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, will be binding on all bidders by constructive notice.

DATED, this 30th day of December, 2013.  
/s/ Micheline W. Brel  
MICHELINE W. BREL, Auctioneer  
P.O. Box 504340, Saipan  
Tel: (670) 235-8060  
Fax: (670) 235-8070  
E-mail: michbrel@hotmail.com



# 'Catholic schools doing their best to keep costs low'

By MARK RABAGO  
mark\_rabago@saipantribune.com  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The two Catholic schools in the CNMI—Mount Carmel School and Eskuelan San Francisco de Borja—are doing their best to keep costs low while continuing to give their students high quality education, according to Fr. Ryan Jimenez, the apostolic administrator of the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa and superintendent of catholic schools in the CNMI.

"Our Catholic schools have kept their costs well below both national and local averages while keeping tuition affordable for our families. In other words, we're doing our best to keep our costs low and our quality high, but we still need help from the community to make up the difference," said Jimenez, speaking to members of the Rotary Club of Saipan at the Hyatt Re-

gency Saipan yesterday.

He noted, though, that this careful balancing of costs and education standards amidst the financial challenges facing the islands haven't been easy.

Quoting the National Catholic Education Association, Jimenez said the national cost per child at Catholic schools is \$5,387 for elementary and \$11,790 for high school students.

"In contrast, the local cost per child at our Catholic schools is \$4,800 for elementary and high school students. Compare that with CNMI's public schools where, with a total of \$62.3 million in local and federal funds available for about 11,000 students, the cost per child is about \$5,600."

Even then, average tuition for elementary and high school students at Mount Carmel School and Eskuelan San Francisco de Borja is actually only \$3,250 per

child, he said.

"Our Catholic schools offer a number of scholarships and financial aid packages, which brings that cost down to \$1,500 for some students."

Another challenge, Jimenez said, is the CNMI Public School System's shift from Title V to Title I federal funding, which resulted in federal funds no longer going directly to private schools to supplement curriculum and instruction in the form of new textbooks, technology resources, or special services such as reading resource teachers.

Despite these challenges, he said the two Catholic schools in the CNMI make a difference by



Jimenez

making the most with what little they have.

For instance, he said, Mount Carmel School has raised the standards for student performance, upgrading its accreditation to AdvancED and adopting the newly developed National Standards and Benchmarks for Effective Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools.

These higher standards have boosted student performance on standardized tests and on last year's SAT-10 test, students at Mount Carmel School scored, on average, better than 61 percent of the rest of the nation, he said.

"On top of all that, Mount Carmel School has launched a number of innovative programs,

such as the Knights Seminar, which prepares students for life after high school with its focus on work readiness, financial literacy, work readiness, and study skills. The school has also been running its successful SAT Boot Camp, which has seen students improve their SAT scores by an average of 200 points."

The school's students also shine in numerous extra-curricular activities, excel in a number of interscholastic competitions, and gain admission into some of the nation's most prestigious colleges and universities, he said.

"In fact, with the Class of 2013, Mount Carmel School achieved a noteworthy milestone: 100 percent college placement. That means that every member of the Class of 2013

is now enrolled in some form of postsecondary education."

He also lauded the achievements made by the Eskuelan San Francisco de Borja.

"Eskuelan San Francisco de Borja has joined Mount Carmel School in making miracles happen. Despite all the challenges of running a private school on Rota, the administrators, faculty, and staff have reached out to the community to establish partnerships to help its students as well as the community. For example, the school ran a very successful summer camp program last year that gave Rota youth a lot to do on an island where there isn't much for young people to do, and the school continues to work closely with the community to collaborate on a number of initiatives."

## Marpi closed off on Jan. 29

The Department of Public Safety will be blocking off the northern part of Saipan, from Marpi north, on Jan. 29, 2014, from about 12pm to 3pm, to dispose of a significant collection of unexploded ordnance that has been collected by the department's Explosive Response Team.

We are requesting all visitors to

these popular areas of the island to make arrangements to visit either in the morning before the 12pm deadline or after the operation has completed at 3pm.

Anyone with questions can contact the Explosives Response Team Operational Supervisor, Sgt. Anthony I. Macaranas at (670) 483-5818. **(DPS)**

Rubber ducks being sold for the 2014 PIC Duck Race are selling like hotcakes, with supporters not only hailing from on-island but from off-island as well, according to race director Glenn Policare.

"The support has been overwhelming. We have sold ducks to San Salvador, Japan, Korea, Russia, the Netherlands and all over the U.S. like California, Texas, Pennsylvania, Montana, New Jersey, Iowa, Indiana, Oregon, and Maine, just to name a few," he said.

As always, cash prizes are

awarded to the top finishers but Policare said Pacific Islands Club Saipan is taking it to the next level this year. In commemoration of its 25th anniversary, PIC Saipan has pledged to give \$2,500 in cash to the first duck to cross the finish line. Cash prizes will be awarded to the second, third, and fourth place ducks as well.

To thank those who support this annual event, PIC Saipan would be awarding \$250 cash and a PIC Room Stay Package to the owner of the 25th duck

that crosses the finish line.

The 2014 PIC Duck Race is scheduled on Feb. 8 at the San Antonio landmark's Lazy River.

Proceeds will be donated once more to the Commonwealth Cancer Association. All in all, PIC Saipan has donated more than \$30,000 to CCA since the race's inception. CCA uses the funds to help those fighting cancer here in the CNMI and to help raise awareness so future generations can live cancer-free.

In addition to the rubber duck race, PIC will also be hosting

The Race Around the River, also known as the Human Duck Race. A total of 24 swimmers will swim one lap around the PIC Lazy River. Outfitted with beak, caps, fins, and lifejackets, the participants will be vying for bragging rights and a great team building award as well.

"So far, we have Triple J Motors, KKMP, Marpac, The Saipan Swim Club, IT&E, Saipan Water and Ice, the Law Office of Robert Torres, and Island Apparel all hosting Human Ducks. With more and more companies showing interest in the Human Duck Race, we will certainly fill all 24 slots," said Policare.

PIC Saipan staff and management would be at the Garapan Street Market this Thursday, Jan. 23, selling ducks. Tickets are only \$5 each. For more information about the Duck Race or the Race Around the River, contact Policare or Dennis Tababa at 237-5147. **(Mark Rabago)**

## WANTED

## NEWS REPORTER

The *Saipan Tribune* is looking for a FULL-TIME news reporter.

### QUALIFICATIONS

- Above average writing skills and can work within deadlines;
- Fast learner, self-starter, and a team player;
- Computer literate;
- With photography skills;
- Must have reliable means of transportation.

If you have what it takes to be part of a dynamic team, email you résumé and samples of your work to [editor@saipantribune.com](mailto:editor@saipantribune.com). You may also drop it off at the *Saipan Tribune* office on the second floor of the JP Center Building on Beach Road, Garapan. ON-ISLAND HIRES PREFERRED.

Saipan Tribune, Inc. is an equal opportunity employer.

Qualified women, minorities, and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

### JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

**ACCOUNTANT (1)** – Must have a Bachelor's degree in Accounting with a minimum of 5 years work related experience, proficient in MS Word, excel, Peachtree and QuickBooks, knowledge of General Accounting and aviation industry, maintain book of accounts, knows how to prepare Financial Statements, Bank Reconciliation, Bookkeeping, Year End reports, Revenue requirements, Accounts receivables and payables, payroll, withholding tax, FICA, BGRT, excise tax and other work assigned; drop and pick up of customers, booking of charter flights, medical evacuation preparation and directly report to the President. Rate: \$5.55 to \$ 7.50/hr.

**GENERAL MECHANIC (1)** – Minimum of 5 years professional experience as general mechanic, repairs and maintains physical structures of the facility, repairs of vehicles, office machines and equipments, plumbing, electrical, carpentry, air condition, and all other equipments of the company. Rate: \$5.55 to \$ 7.50/hr.

Interested applicants can mail their resume at P.O. Box 7688 SVRB, Saipan, MP 96950 or may email to [saipan@americopters.com](mailto:saipan@americopters.com). No phone calls please.

### JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

**Property Manager (1)** — Handle financial operations including rent collection, mortgages, taxes, insurance premiums, payroll and maintenance bills. Experience working with Homeowners Association. Experience with property taxes and insurance include filing insurance claims and appeal property tax assessments. Knowledge working with softwares such as Propertyware, Quickbooks, Excel, and Powerpoint. Experience with managing properties in the U.S. mainland. Produce monthly financial reports. Negotiate contracts for landscaping, trash removal and monitor performance of contractors, investigate and resolve complaints from tenants. Inspect grounds, facilities and equipment for repairs and maintenance. Meet with tenants, show vacant rental units and enforce terms of contracts. Regular work hours: 8am-5pm.

Submit your resume to Bridge Capital, LLC, PMB 29 Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950 or email at [reneacia.sannicolas@bccnmi.com](mailto:reneacia.sannicolas@bccnmi.com)

### JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

#### (5) Driver

- Salary \$5.55 per hour plus Tip.
- 3 years driving experience required
- Traffic Clearance/Police Clearance required (After Interview)
- No DUI history or pending case.
- U.S. Citizens only

#### (1) Accountant

- Salary 6.75/hour, 25+ hrs/week
- 5 years experience as Accountant or Book Keeper.
- Flexible hours.
- Traffic Clearance/Police Clearance required (After Interview)

Please contact Pretty Tour Office for an interview at 233-8800, 233-8801  
Please provide resume and colored photo.

#### Job Vacancy Announcement

Strategic Gaming Solutions, Inc. has immediate job opening for the following position:

#### General Manager, Electronic Gaming (1)

**Position Summary:** Plan, direct, coordinate, and manage the entire operations of an e-gaming machine lounge, divisions, departments and/or all operating units. Plan, develop and maintain systems and procedures for operating efficiency. Manage staff for optimum performance. Ensure compliance with all applicable CNMI and Federal laws and adherence to and maintenance of policy of confidentiality within the gaming operation. Produce maximum revenue levels. Perform other duties as assigned or as required.

**Position Requirement:** Bachelor's degree in Business Administration or related field and a certificate in gaming operations plus demonstrated experience & ability in managing an e-gaming operation, evidenced by several years managing live table games or e-gaming machines operation or several years of successful work experience in one or more gaming operations and must be computer literate; ability to communicate effectively with guests, team members and management in both written and verbal form and the ability to handle multiple tasks; Knowledge and experience in strategic planning; marketing, brand reinforcement; networking, stakeholder communication; financial management, forecasting, budgeting; team building and development; staff management, mentoring and motivation; organizational, coordination and time management; complete all documentation accurately in accordance with standards and applicable local and federal laws. Ability to work any shift or hours including evenings, holidays, and weekends; highly motivated, organized, outgoing, with excellent and leadership skills.

**Compensation:** Salary rate to be commensurate with qualification, work experience, and ability to perform.

**Job Location:** Saipan and at all offices or e-gaming/digital gaming lounges of the corporation.

**Application:** Applications may be obtained from the Mita Travel, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan. Deadline for submission of completed applications is January 24, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.



## NMC bares proposal to change individual degree plans

The Northern Marianas College has bared plans to revisit its existing individual degree plans, or IDPs, to put the programs in line with 60 credits for associated degrees and 120 credits for baccalaureate degrees.

Based on the latest report submitted to the Board of Regents, the plan will be implemented starting in the fall 2014 semester.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that at NMC, a student carrying 12 or more credits in the fall or

spring semester is considered a "full-time student." A student planning to complete an associate degree within two years is advised to complete at least 15 credits every semester.

Based on its records, the percentage of NMC students taking 15 credits of fewer per semester is considerably higher than the national average.

For two-year degree programs, the percentage of students at the national level taking fewer than 15 credits is 71

percent. At NMC, the figure is 84 percent.

Also, at the national level, those taking over 15 credits in two-year degree programs are at 29 percent; at NMC this is only 16 percent.

For four-year degree programs, students taking fewer than 15 credits or over 15 credits is both at 50 percent at the national level. A NMC, students taking below 15 credits are at 64 percent while those taking 15 and over credits are

at 36 percent.

Based on NMC's current plan, it wants to make its full-time student enroll in at least 15 credits instead of the current 12.

Barabara Merfalen, dean of Academic Programs and Services, has scheduled a series of meetings with the academic and student support leadership to discuss this strategy.

NMC president Dr. Sharon Y. Hart said: "APS [Academic Programs Services] and AC

[Academic Council] are working together to make changes to the Individual Degree Plan forms within degree programs to meet or to be closer to the 60/120 degree credits for successful completion of program: 60 for associate degrees and 120 for baccalaureates."

It was bared last week that few students graduate on time at NMC: Only 8 percent of students taking associate degrees graduate within two years while nobody has yet to complete a

four-year degree on time.

NMC has only one four-year degree, the School of Education. Most of its courses are for associate degrees, or two-year programs.

Hart said the college must improve its "completion and retention" rates because the institution will be ranked and that data would be utilized by the federal government to decide on the funding to be earmarked for individual institutions. *(Moneth G. Deposa)*

## Woman, abandoned by family, dies at GMH

**GUAM (Pacific News Center)**—A local woman who had camped out in front of Guam Memorial Hospital for the past week has died.

The woman caught media attention when her plight was mulled over by GMH, Adelup and other government agencies.

The woman had been taken to the hospital last weekend

and was treated and released, but she had been turned away by relatives despite numerous phone calls to retrieve her.

The woman spent most of the week sitting in front of the hospital with nowhere to go, but was brought into the hospital's ER in the evenings.

Compounding the situation, the woman was refusing dialy-

sis treatment.

She was finally admitted into the hospital a week ago because her condition had worsened. She passed away over the weekend.

Authorities say they have never had a case where a patient would go days unclaimed or refused by family members. In the worst case scenario, families would respond within 24 hours.

## Stepfather rape trial: Jury returns with guilty verdict

**GUAM (Pacific News Center)**—After several days of being deadlocked, the jury in the stepdad rape trial of Alvin San Nicolas has finally returned a verdict of guilty on two of the 15 counts of first degree criminal sexual conduct for the rape of his stepdaughter. Specifically, they convicted him on counts one and 15.

Judiciary spokesman Josh Tenorio tells PNC that al-

though the jury came back with a not-guilty verdict on counts 2 through 9, they did find him guilty on the lesser included charges of third degree criminal sexual conduct. As for counts 10 to 14, Tenorio said, San Nicolas was found not guilty.

San Nicolas was on trial for the second time for the rape of his stepdaughter back in 2009 and 2010, while her mother was deployed to Iraq. He had

already been found guilty on all counts back in February 2012, but that conviction was overturned on appeal due to flaws in the indictment.

Each of the 15 counts correspond to the 15 months of sexual abuse the victim suffered from June 2009 to August 2010 when she was 14 and 15 years old.

San Nicolas is scheduled to be sentenced on Feb. 11 at 11am.

**GUAM (Pacific News Center)**—The Legislature held a public hearing yesterday on a resolution to promote a ferry service between Guam and the CNMI.

Resolution 279 was introduced by Sen. Tina Muna Barnes, promoting an affordable alternative regional transportation system between Guam and the CNMI via a ferry service.

Commonwealth Public Transportation Advisory Board

chair Thomas J. Camacho testified in support of the resolution but he recommended that ferry service be looked at not only from a private viewpoint but from a public transportation viewpoint as well. He recommended some sort of public-private partnership that would set up public transportation between the islands.

"Ferry service provides an alternative to air service. It also

will play as an interisland commuter service for work, allow delivery service via mini delivery trucks and vans, is a tourist attraction, and plays an important role in emergency preparedness. [It will also] enhance personal opportunities such as the mobility and freedom of people from every walk of life. Creates jobs and provides access to job [and] economic opportunities," said Camacho.

### VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT NO. 14-01

United States District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands

#### SYSTEMS & NETWORK ADMINISTRATOR

Location: GARAPAN, SAIPAN, MP

Grade CL-26, \$42,640 - \$60,266 per annum, plus 13.84% COLA

Salary matching may be available depending on qualifications.

Opening Date: Jan. 15, 2014 **CLOSING DATE: Jan. 31, 2014**

#### Position Overview:

Install and manage Windows servers and the Windows Active Directory. Configure and manage wired, wireless, VLAN and VPN networks, and the VOIP telephone system. Help desk user support. Configure tablet and handheld devices. Additional information is available upon request, or via Internet at <http://www.nmid.uscourts.gov>. This position includes full federal employment benefits, with paid leave and holidays, health insurance, life insurance and federal retirement benefits.

#### Minimum Qualifications:

Applicants must be a high school or GED graduate, with at least two years progressively responsible experience that is in or closely related to this position and which has demonstrated the particular knowledge, skills and abilities to successfully perform the duties of this position. College graduation with a bachelors degree in a related field may be substituted for some or all of the work experience at the discretion of the hiring authority. Applicants must possess the ability to exercise judgment and the ability to communicate effectively in writing and orally.

#### Citizenship Requirement:

Applicants are required to be U.S. citizens or aliens who are authorized to work in the U.S.

#### Preferred Qualifications:

Advanced systems and network experience is preferred. Additional qualifications in Linux systems, server virtualization, SQL, PHP, or application programming are preferred.

#### Notice to Applicants:

Appointment is subject to a six-month probationary period. Upon selection, the candidate is required to satisfactorily pass an FBI background investigation.

#### Application Procedure:

Each applicant is required to submit a signed AO-78 application form and a Cover Letter. AO-78 forms are on the Internet at: <http://www.nmid.uscourts.gov> or may be picked up at the U.S. District Court. Deadline for receipt of applications is Friday, Jan. 31, 2014 at 12:00noon, Saipan time (GMT+10:00).

Deliver applications to:

**Clerk of Court**

**United States District Court**

**for the Northern Mariana Islands**

**2nd Floor, Horiguchi Building, Garapan, Saipan**

Or, email signed applications to:

**HR@nmid.uscourts.gov**

*The United States District Court is an Equal Opportunity Employer*



### LAW REVISION COMMISSION

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
JUDICIAL BRANCH

#### VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT PUBLICATIONS CLERK & ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

##### DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

The successful candidate will work under the Executive Director of the Law Revision Commission / General Counsel for the Judicial Branch on Saipan. The duties of this position include, but are not limited to the following:

- Performs a full range of secretarial and administrative support duties for the Executive Director/General Counsel;
- Receives and screens visitors and callers; responds to inquiries and/or directs them to the appropriate authority; places calls and e-mail messages on behalf of the Executive Director/General Counsel;
- Performs duties of a highly confidential nature;
- Coordinates and arranges meetings and appointments for the Executive Director/General Counsel;
- Establishes and maintains a calendar for the Executive Director/General Counsel;
- Transcribes meeting minutes from written notes and/or audio recordings;
- Coordinates and assists the Executive Director/General Counsel with special projects;
- Adheres to and complies with all promulgated policies, standards, and codes of ethical conduct;
- Assists with the compilation, formatting and printing of electronic files of statutes, judicial decisions and regulations for publication in print and electronic media by providing administrative support;
- Responds to orders of Commission publications at the office and by packaging, mailing and delivering publications to subscribers, maintaining up-to-date subscribers' list, keeping inventory of publications in stock and maintaining documents re: publications sold;
- Contacts purchasers and potential purchasers regarding LRC products and services;
- Scans, cleans and converts documents to create searchable pdf files;
- Prepares monthly and annual sales reports and transmits cash and check sales to the Judiciary Cashier, enters credit card sales and other transactions into financial management system;
- Prepares timesheets;
- Drafts correspondence and other documents when requested;
- Opens office at 8 a.m. on a daily basis, closes office for lunch from 12:00 p.m., opens office at 1:00 p.m. after lunch, and closes office at 5:00 p.m.; time and attendance are critical;
- Performs other related duties as assigned.

##### QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

The Publications Clerk/Administrative Assistant should possess an Associate's Degree or a high school diploma or equivalent plus a minimum of one (1) year work experience in office clerical work and have computer, word processing and secretarial skills. Legal secretary, website operation and /or publication office experience is preferred. College credits and/or business trade school is preferred. Must be extremely punctual and have impeccable attendance.

**COMPENSATION:** This position is exempt from civil service. The salary will be \$18,500 annually.

**INTERESTED PERSONS** may obtain application forms at the OPM offices in the CNMI, at the Judiciary Administrative Office at the Guma Hustisia/Imwal Aweewe/House of Justice in Susupe, or at the Superior Court offices on Tinian and Rota. Completed applications, resumes, proof of high school graduation, along with copies of police clearance and proof of eligibility to work in the CNMI may be submitted to:

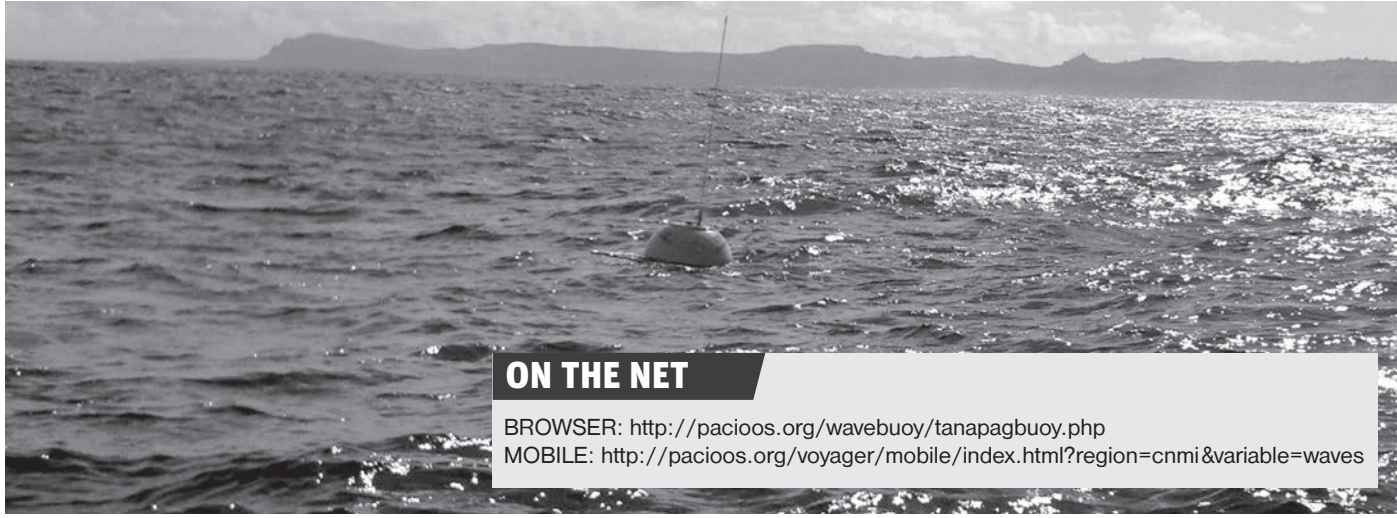
Michelle V. Guerrero  
Human Resource/Administrative Officer  
Guma Hustisia/Imwal Aweewe/House of Justice  
P.O. Box 502165  
Saipan, MP 96950  
Tel. (670)236-9818  
Fax. (670) 236-9702  
[michelle.guerrero@justice.gov.mp](mailto:michelle.guerrero@justice.gov.mp)

This job announcement will remain open until filled. Also, this job announcement can be seen and a printable copy of the application downloaded at <http://www.justice.gov.mp>.

THE CNMI JUDICIARY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.



# Wave buoy on Saipan provides data to keep ocean users safe



## ON THE NET

BROWSER: <http://pacioos.org/wavebuoy/tanapagbuoy.php>  
MOBILE: <http://pacioos.org/voyager/mobile/index.html?region=cnmi&variable=waves>

PacIOOS wave buoy at Tanapag, Saipan. The wave buoy is 3ft. in diameter and weighs 500 lbs. PacIOOS requests boaters steer clear of the buoy by 50ft. and not to tie off onto the buoy. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

On Jan. 16, 2014, the Pacific Islands Ocean Observing System, or PacIOOS, swapped their wave buoy off Tanapag for one with fresh batteries. The buoy measures wave height, wave direction, wave period, and sea surface temperature every 30 minutes.

PacIOOS wave buoys in the Mariana Islands stream data to inform safe transit and recreation and provide critical information for the National Weather Service to produce accurate high surf forecasts and advisories and surf zone forecasts out of the Guam Weather Forecasting Office.

“Since we first deployed the wave buoy at Tanapag in October 2012, it has provided valuable information that enabled the National Weather Service to warn ocean users and beach goers in the Mariana Islands of impending hazards,” explained Melissa Iwamoto, PacIOOS Outreach and Program Coordinator. “We are excited to offer data to help ensure the safety of stakeholders that work, recreate, and live in the coastal zone.”

PacIOOS requests boaters to steer clear of the buoy by 50 feet and not to tie off onto the buoy. Recovery and redeployment of these buoys is expensive and challenging, as the team relies on calm conditions to safely deploy these sensitive instruments that weigh 500 lbs.

The buoy is part of PacIOOS’ network of 12 near-real-time wave buoys in Hawaii, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Marshall Islands. Data stream from the buoys to the PacIOOS Voyagers (<http://pacioos.org/voyager>), the PacIOOS website (<http://pacioos.org>), and to the Coastal Data Information Program at Scripps Institution of Oceanography. Data streaming is made possible through long-term partnerships between PacIOOS, the U.S. Army Corps of

Engineers, and CDIP.

To view the data from the Tanapag wave buoy, go to <http://pacioos.org/wavebuoy/tanapagbuoy.php>.

On the go? Click on <http://pacioos.org/voyager/mobile/index.html?region=cnmi&variable=waves> to go to the PacIOOS Voyager Mobile tool and click on the wave buoy for near-real-time wave conditions.

Based within the School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, PacIOOS is the Pacific Islands regional component of the U.S. Integrated Ocean Observing System. PacIOOS is a partnership of data providers and users working together to enhance ocean observations and develop, disseminate, evaluate, and apply ocean data and information products designed to address the environmental, economic, and public safety needs of stakeholders who call the Pacific Islands home.

Signatory partners of PacIOOS in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands include the Office of the Governor, Department of Environmental Quality, and Pacific Marine Resources Institute. For more on this regional program, visit [www.pacioos.org](http://www.pacioos.org).

## KAGMAN HIGH SCHOOL NOTICES

### Calling all Kagman High parents

Kagman High School is inviting KHS parents to the 2nd annual Character Counts Convention on Saturday, Jan. 25, 2014, from 8am to 3pm. If you are a parent of a KHS student we want you! Call the main office to confirm your attendance. For more information, call 237-3840.

The Character Counts Convention is a student-led event where KHS student leaders facilitate mini workshops about the six Pillars of Character and other student issues. This year we will also be focusing on 21st century skills and their importance to student success after high school.

This event is free! Refreshments and lunch are provided to all participants. There will be giveaways too! If you are a KHS parent, call 237-3840 and save your spot for this event.

### Calling all Kagman High graduates

Kagman High School is conducting outreach to all former KHS graduates. We want to know where you are and how you are doing. We want to brag about you to current KHS students! We want to invite you to share your experiences and stories. So, if you or someone you know graduated from Kagman High School, take a little bit of time to fill out this form online: <http://goo.gl/6gTqaN>. Go Ayuyus!

### KHS students need community service opportunities

Did you know that all Kagman High School students must perform community service as a requirement for participation in the graduation ceremony? All PSS students must complete a portfolio by graduation. Part of the portfolio is the community service component. KHS sees the value of community service and requires students to accumulate no less than 40 hours per school year to participate in the graduation ceremony. Because of this requirement, KHS is asking any community partner to send us community service opportunities that we can post on our community service bulletin board on campus. We are trying to provide our students with a variety of service opportunities. Let us help each other! Send your community service opportunity information to [khsayuyu@kagmanhigh.org](mailto:khsayuyu@kagmanhigh.org). We will post it as soon as we get it. You can follow up or get more information by calling 237-3840.

### Calling all Kagman residents

Are you out of work? Are you interested in the trades school here on Saipan? Kagman High School is hosting a Northern Marianas Trades Institute information session on Monday, Jan. 27, 2014, at 5pm in the cafeteria. Please come to this session to find out what future employment opportunities await you! (PR)

## Lawyer: Roberto has yet to receive some evidence related to his case

Former acting CNMI Division of Fish and Wildlife director Raymond Borja Roberto has yet to receive some evidence from the U.S. government that are necessary for his pretrial motions, according to defense counsel Joaquin Torres.

In a declaration, Torres said they have not received the computer analysis and other anticipated discovery that are critical in preparation of Roberto’s pretrial motions.

Torres asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to allow them to file pretrial motions until Feb. 15, 2014.

Torres said he has already asked assistant U.S. attorney Rami Badawy about extending the filing the pretrial motions and that Badawy does not oppose the request.

Roberto is accused of paying for sex with two female minors. He pleaded not guilty to two charges.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona recently granted Torres’ motion to move the trial date from Jan. 21, 2014, to May 12, 2014, saying she finds the case to be complex and that excludable delay was warranted

so that counsels can adequately prepare for trial.

Torres asked to move the trial date due to the voluminous discovery materials they received from the prosecution, the superseding indictment, and the alleged additional victim.

Torres stated that there were still outstanding discovery materials yet to be received.

Assistant U.S. attorney Ross Naughton recently informed the court that electronic items were seized and that they have been sent to Honolulu for forensic analysis.

According to the superseding indictment, from March 1, 2013, to about July 18, 2013, Roberto, “using a facility and means of interstate or foreign commerce, knowingly persuaded, induced, enticed and coerced” two minor girls to engage in sex.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that Roberto served as acting CNMI Division of Fish and Wildlife for only two days.

FBI agents arrested him last Aug. 31 on charges of coercion and enticement. The case is related to the earlier arrest of firefighter Richard S. Benavente and suspected pimp Annette N. Basa. (Ferdie de la Torre)

# Flashback

## A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS’ HEADLINES

January 22, 2006

### Funding lack cripples MLS

The Micronesian Legal Services disclosed that its annual funding has dropped to a point where it now finds it hard to sustain services to indigent residents needing legal assistance. MLS director attorney Jane Mack said the agency gets only about \$66,000 per year these days—a huge drop when compared to what it used get from the local government several years ago. Mack said the agency used to get at least \$200,000 from the local government in the mid-’90s. With no new budget being enacted in the last three years, Mack said they have been stuck with the same amount every year.

### 19 firms to participate in MHS Career Fair

Nineteen groups from the government and private sectors have confirmed their participation in the Marianas High School Career Fair this Tuesday. MHS teacher and coordinator Tyce Myster received confirmation from the following companies: CNMI Public Defender’s Office, Coastal Resources Management, Community Guidance Center, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Delta Management dba Shell, Department of Public Health, DFS Galleria, and Hard Rock Café. Other companies are Joeten Motors, JC Tenorio Enterprises, Joeten’s ACE Hardware, Marianas Visitor’s Authority, NMC CREES, Northern Marianas Housing Corp., Office of the Public Auditor, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, Pacific Islands Club, Pacific Telecom Inc., Saipan Grand Hotel, and Sorensen Pacific Broadcasting.

January 22, 2007

### 150 new govt hires since June

The CNMI government, including the mayoral offices, hired over 150 employees at a time when hundreds of existing personnel are forced to take pay cuts, according to information from the Office of Personnel Management. The OPM data, obtained by the office of Rep. Stanley T. Torres, showed that the central government hired 111 new employees between June 1, 2006 and Jan. 3, 2007. Personnel director Mathilda A. Rosario said that the CNMI list includes the governor’s Cabinet and staff, but not Workforce Investment Agency clients, summer trainees or temporary physicians. The list also does not include those existing government employees whose contracts or appointments were renewed, or who were promoted or appointed to different positions in government, if there was no break in service.

### OPA job audit out in two weeks

The government-backed audit of private sector jobs may not be out in two more weeks, but Public Auditor Michael Sablan guarantees that the study group has succeeded in what it set out to do. “The jobs study’s objective is very specific. The question is, are there jobs currently filled by nonresident workers that can be filled by residents? The study group has concluded that there are. There are certainly opportunities for resident workers in the workforce. Now the question is how do we transition residents to these jobs,” Sablan said.

January 22, 2008

### Wushin revises planned LPG hike

Wushin Corp. amended its planned \$0.33-a-gallon increase in liquefied petroleum gas to just \$0.18 per gallon after realizing the impact the price hike would have on its customers. The Lower Base-headquartered LPG wholesaler had announced on Jan. 14 a \$0.33-increase in its products, citing an increase in the price of its main supplier in Guam. The new round of LPG price hikes by Wushin was supposed to be implemented yesterday and would add \$6.50 to the company’s 90-lbs. cylinder, \$3.50 to its 50-lbs. cylinder, and \$1.50 to Wushin’s 20-lbs. cylinder.

### Hundred-plus people join MLK Day march

Over a hundred people of different nationalities joined yesterday’s civil rights mini-march in Garapan as part of the commemoration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day. The marchers, mostly wearing white Martin Luther King shirts, converged in front of the American Memorial Park’s museum shortly before 3pm. At 3:15pm, teacher Ambrose Bennett yelled into a megaphone “Freedom! Freedom! Freedom!” to signal the start of the civil rights’ march. African American Cultural Preservation Committee president attorney Joe Hill led the march, accompanied by special guest, Dr. Kathryn Waddell Takara, an ethnic studies professor at the University of Hawaii. She is daughter of the late Dr. William H. Waddell, who was honored as the last Buffalo Soldier.





CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The crew of the USCGC *Sequoia* led by commanding officer Jessica Worst and First Lt. Richard Keefauver are joined by Greg M. Villagomez, Operations Supervisor-Saipan Stevedore; John Hirsh, executive director, NMI Red Cross; Paul Camacho, Emergency Services director, Red Cross; and Wayne Gillespie, VOAD chairman.

# USCG helps transport emergency humanitarian supplies to Saipan

The U.S. Coast Guard provided ocean transportation from Guam to Saipan for 18 pallets of Humanitarian Daily Rations (HDR's) for distribution by the CNMI Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster, or VOAD.

"We are grateful to the USCGC *Sequoia* and its crew for helping us provide additional food assistance to those in need here the CNMI," said Pastor Wayne Gillespie of the Salvation Army and chairman of the local VOAD. "These food products will be given out at no cost to homeless and others who need additional food assistance."

Several partner agencies provided help with the access and movement of these supplies from Guam, including the American Red Cross, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Defense, Triple B Forwarders, CTSI, Commonwealth Ports Authority, and Saipan Stevedore. Special thanks to Marcelo Esperson, FEMA, Distribution Center GUAM, and Roy N. Tsutsui, Joint Region Marianas. For more information about these supplies contact the VOAD through the Red Cross as 234-3459. (ARC)

# Bordallo donates computers to Pacific Islands University

**HAGATÑA, Guam**—Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-GU) donated Monday computer systems to the Pacific Island University. Members of the PIU administration and board visited with Bordallo to accept the donation.

Pacific Islands University is a nationally accredited Christian college, Bible college, and graduate level seminary in the Micronesia region. Late last year, Bordallo was invited to visit the Pacific Islands University.

The school's mission to provide services and access to higher education for people in the surrounding region left a lasting impression with Bordallo.

"The Pacific Island University is an impressive institution providing important services to our community," said Bordallo. "I am pleased to be able to donate this equipment to the University to support their efforts in making higher education more accessible." (PR)

# Crew of 24 saved from sinking ship in west Pacific near Guam

**APRA HARBOR, Guam** (AP)—The U.S. Coast Guard says 24 crewmembers have been rescued from a sinking cargo ship that lost power in the western Pacific Ocean.

The Guard says it received word Sunday morning that a vessel hauling logs to China was in trouble about 450 miles west of Guam.

By Sunday afternoon, the

Chinese crew of the Panama-flagged *Rich Forest* had abandoned the 500-foot ship and boarded life rafts.

About three hours later, a bulk cargo vessel called the *CS Sunshine* reached the crew and safely rescued all of them.

The abandoned ship is now adrift. The Coast Guard is warning nearby ships of the navigation hazard.

Robert Tenorio Torres Attorney at Law  
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms  
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P.O. Box 503758  
Saipan, MP 96950  
Tel: (670) 234-7859  
Fax: (670) 234-5749  
Attorney for Plaintiff

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CNMI SUPERIOR COURT  
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Filing ID: 54585973  
Case Number: 120047CV Rosie Ada

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT  
FOR THE  
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

BANK OF GUAM, ) Civil Action  
Plaintiff, ) No. 12-0047  
vs. )  
CHARLES D. BODDY, )  
and FELICIDAD C. BODDY, ) **NOTICE OF**  
Defendants. ) **AUCTION and**  
 ) **JUDICIAL SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of a judgment made and entered in the above titled action on the 13th day of November, 2012, by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due Plaintiff in the above titled action from Defendants, as prescribed in the Order Approving Judicial Sale of Mortgaged Property, the undersigned counsel or his designee will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the 30th day of January, 2014 at 10 a.m., at the Law Office of Robert T. Torres, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, Saipan, the premises and real estate, lying and being on Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said judgment, to wit:

Lot No. 345 R 454, (formerly part of original lot 345 R 162), in Sinapalo Village, Rota, containing an area of 955 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 345 R 17, the original of which was registered on September 18, 1992, as Document No. 923063, and also recorded on October 23, 1992 as Document No. 323395 at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan, CNMI.

**Terms and Conditions of Sale.**  
**1. Rights and duties of Auctioneer.** Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:  
a) withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.  
b) to adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and  
c) to reject any and all bids.  
**2. Bids.** Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 6702347859; Fax: 6702345749; Email: rttlaw@pticom.com.  
**3. Deposit and Payment.** A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or money order. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to Bank of Guam.  
**4. Change of Terms.** Auctioneer and Bank of Guam reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.  
**5. Inspection and No Warranty.** Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. Contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 19th day of November, 2013.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

Robert Tenorio Torres Attorney at Law  
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms  
(Chalan Kiya)  
P.O. Box 503758  
Saipan, MP 96950  
Tel: (670) 234-7859  
Fax: (670) 234-5749  
Attorney for Plaintiff

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CNMI SUPERIOR COURT  
Filed: Nov 19 2013 10:31AM  
Clerk Review: Nov 20 2013 10:20AM  
Filing ID: 54578089  
Case Number: 120041CV Rosie Ada

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT  
FOR THE  
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

BANK OF GUAM, ) Civil Action  
Plaintiff, ) No. 12-0241  
vs. )  
JUANA J. CASTRO, )  
Defendant. ) **NOTICE OF**  
 ) **AUCTION and**  
 ) **JUDICIAL SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of a judgment made and entered in the above titled action on the 23rd day of April, 2013, by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due Plaintiff in the above titled action from Defendant, as prescribed in the Order Approving Judicial Sale of Mortgaged Property, the undersigned counsel or his designee will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the 30th day of January, 2014 at 10 a.m., at the Law Office of Robert T. Torres, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, Saipan, the premises and real estate, lying and being on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said judgment, to wit:

Lot No. H744, (part of original 74R2, AH 74), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 2058/84, the original of which was recorded 05 JUN 85 as Document No. 85 1062 at the Commonwealth Recorder's, Saipan.

**Terms and Conditions of Sale.**  
**1. Rights and duties of Auctioneer.** Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:  
a) withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.  
b) to adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and  
c) to reject any and all bids.  
**2. Bids.** Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 6702347859; Fax: 6702345749; Email: rttlaw@pticom.com.  
**3. Deposit and Payment.** A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or money order. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to Bank of Guam.  
**4. Change of Terms.** Auctioneer and Bank of Guam reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.  
**5. Inspection and No Warranty.** Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. Contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 19th day of November, 2013.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

Robert Tenorio Torres  
Attorney at Law  
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)  
P.O. Box 503758  
Saipan, MP 96950  
Tel: (670) 234-7859  
Fax: (670) 234-5749  
Attorney for Plaintiff

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE  
COMMONWEALTH OF THE  
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST, ) Civil Action  
Plaintiff, ) No. 13-0034  
vs. )  
JUAN J. TOMOKANE, ) **NOTICE OF**  
and LISA L. SANTOS, ) **AUCTION and**  
Defendants. ) **JUDICIAL SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of a judgment made and entered in the above titled action on the 24th day of May, 2013, by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due Plaintiff in the above titled action from Defendants, as prescribed in the Order Approving Judicial Sale of Mortgaged Property, the undersigned counsel or his designee will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the 19th day of February, 2014 at 10:00 a.m., at the Marianas Public Land Trust Conference Room, Capitol Hill, Saipan, the premises and real estate, lying and being on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said judgment, to wit:

Lot No. 011 G 379, containing an area of 825 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 011 G 07 dated December 1, 1993, Commonwealth Recorder's File No. 93-4415, dated December 16, 1993.

**Terms and Conditions of Sale.**  
**1. Rights and duties of Auctioneer.** Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:  
a) withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such a property is accepted.  
b) to adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and  
c) to reject any and all bids.  
**2. Bids.** Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such Bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 670-234-7859; Fax: 670-234-5749; Email: rttlaw@pticom.com.  
**3. Deposit and Payment.** A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or money order. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to Marianas Public Land Trust.  
**4. Change of Terms.** Auctioneer and Marianas Public Land Trust reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct an enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.  
**5. Inspection and No Warranty.** Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. Contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interest of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 6th day of January, 2014.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

Robert Tenorio Torres Attorney at Law  
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms  
(Chalan Kiya)  
P.O. Box 503758  
Saipan, MP 96950  
Tel: (670) 234-7859  
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Attorney for Plaintiff

FILED  
CNMI SUPERIOR COURT  
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Case Number: 130012CV Glenn Maratita

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT  
FOR THE  
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

BANK OF GUAM, ) Civil Action  
Plaintiff, ) No. 13-0012  
vs. )  
ROBERT M. CALVO, ) **NOTICE OF**  
Defendant. ) **AUCTION and**  
 ) **JUDICIAL SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of a judgment made and entered in the above titled action on the 20th day of March, 2013, by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due Plaintiff in the above titled action from Defendant, as prescribed in the Order Approving Judicial Sale of Mortgaged Property, the undersigned counsel or his designee will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the 30th day of January, 2014 at 10 a.m., at the Law Office of Robert T. Torres, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, Saipan, the premises and real estate, lying and being on Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said judgment, to wit:

Lot No. 345 R 247, situated in Sinapalo I, Rota, containing an area of 858 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat No. 345 R 05, dated May 11, 1984.

**Terms and Conditions of Sale.**  
**1. Rights and duties of Auctioneer.** Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:  
a) withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.  
b) to adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and  
c) to reject any and all bids.  
**2. Bids.** Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 6702347859; Fax: 6702345749; Email: rttlaw@pticom.com.  
**3. Deposit and Payment.** A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or money order. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to Bank of Guam.  
**4. Change of Terms.** Auctioneer and Bank of Guam reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.  
**5. Inspection and No Warranty.** Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. Contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 19th day of November, 2013.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer



# Opinion

Hafa Adai!

## Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER  
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Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI  
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR  
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MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

### EDITORIAL

## Obama's NSA reforms

After criticizing George W. Bush for pursuing a war on terrorism at the expense of Americans' privacy, President Obama has disappointed civil libertarians by continuing many of his predecessor's policies. But it was only with the revelations by former National Security Agency contractor Edward Snowden that Americans realized how aggressively the government was trawling for information not just about suspected terrorists but also about friendly foreign leaders and U.S. citizens.

When newspapers began publishing Snowden's revelations, Obama said he welcomed a debate on electronic surveillance and appointed a task force to propose possible changes. On Friday, the president responded to the panel's recommendations in a speech that went further than many had expected in embracing significant reforms.

Most important, Obama wisely accepted the recommendation that the government no longer collect and store massive amounts of telephone metadata—information about the source, destination and duration of telephone calls that can be “queried” or searched to turn up connections to foreign terrorists. Government possession of such information, the task force warned, “creates potential risks to public trust, personal privacy and civil liberty.” It urged that the data be held instead by phone companies or some third party.

Obama didn't order an immediate end to the current program. Instead, he announced a two-step transition process. In the first phase, new limits will be placed on how extensively the government can query phone records in its possession, and the decision about whether there is reasonable suspicion justifying a search will be made by a court, not by investigators. In the second phase, administration officials will study ways in which the government might relinquish control of the records, and report back to Obama by March 28.

That's a good start, but lawmakers should ponder a broader question: whether the metadata program is worth continuing even if the records are privately held. The task force concluded that information obtained from it “was not essential to preventing attacks” and could have been obtained by other means.

Obama also will ask Congress to let independent lawyers appear before the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court, and he promised new limits on the use in criminal cases of information collected “incidentally” from communication between foreigners targeted for surveillance and Americans. Finally, he ordered restrictions on the collection of information about foreigners living abroad, private citizens as well as leaders. These are reforms this page has supported.

Obama praised the NSA's professionalism and denounced Snowden for revealing secrets “that could impact our operations in ways that we may not fully understand for years to come.” But the overarching theme of the speech was that, with the best of intentions, the government over which Obama presides has gone too far in taking advantage of advanced technology. Now that recognition must be followed by action to restore the proper balance between security and privacy.

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## Thailand's shadow theatre

Thai Prathet Thai, the “land of the free” has Thailand free-wheeling street marches in the manner Yul Brynner strutted as the King of Siam while he charmed the corset off Anna in the King and I.

I fancy a Thai restaurant in San Antonio. Thai hospitality melded with the harmony of spices in their cuisine, thus the frequency of my patronage.

Triggered by the devaluation of the baht, the Asian financial crisis of '97 severely affected Indonesia and South Korea. Hong Kong, Laos, Malaysia, and the Philippines were infected by the consequent economic slump; Singapore, China, Taiwan, Brunei, and Vietnam suffered from loss of product demand as inventory rose.

The world in 2014 is in an uproar. Brazil moves beyond the glamour of FIFA World Cup, South Sudan decides on who controls the oil, Afghanistan feels the impact of civilian drone victims on the resurgent Taliban, Delhi struggles with another gang rape, the United States locates its equilibrium after a middle school student pulls out a rifle, an ex-police chief shoots a texting dad at a movie house, and a supermart random shooter leaves two ladies breathless down the aisle, even as many fails to see beyond the WH resident's skin color!

The divisiveness in Thailand now pits the red and the yellow shirts. Identified with the red shirts is Thaksin Shinawatra, former PM 2001-2006, deposed by a military coup for corruption and abuse of power, and now accused of pulling the levers from exile through Yingluck Shinawatra, his sister and current prime minister.

Main protagonist leading the yellow shirts is former deputy PM Sutep Saugthubon, also under indictment for corruption and abuse of power. He resigned his seat in parliament 2013 to lead the current protest in the streets of Bangkok with no less than the resignation of PM Yingluck as a goal. He leads Bangkok's elitist educated class against what it considers the reds' uneducated rural class.

There are also two other power bases. One is the monarchy, with its considerable moral clout but short of chutzpah to influence affairs one way or the other. Thailand is a constitutional monarchy. The beloved but ailing monarch Bhumibol Adulyadej, and consort, the charming Sirikit, are now 87 and 81.

The other power base is the military, respected for its discipline to maintain order but remain subservient to civilian rule. It intervened in 2006 to oust PM Thaksin. He was effective enough to finish a full term, popular enough to get re-elected a second term, turned the economy around from the baht devaluation, but had the politicians' greed of enriching himself in office, and putting himself above the law, especially in the heavy-handed treatment on the rampant trade in drugs.

The current emergency is endemic to the nature of the Kingdom of Thailand itself. Consisting of six macro-regions of considerable

By JAIME VERGARA  
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime R. Vergara is an ordained minister of the United Methodist Church and was pastor of Saipan Immanuel UMC at the second millenium's turn. He now writes from China.



diversity, Thaksin is from the Chang Mai area up in the mountains with a heritage that reaches back to Guangzhou in China on his father's side, and a local princess close to Yunnan and Yuenan (Vietnam) mountain tribes on his mother's side. Thaksin's father was in Parliament, and four members of the family (two sisters and a brother-in-law) are familiar with the management of political power.

Sutep comes from the southern province of Surat Thani, part of the buffer between Myanmar and Malaysia, bounded by the Gulf and Malacca Strait, predominantly of Malay stock of Muslim persuasion. Sutep struts with the confidence of a coastal pirate but defers to the military and the monarchy; Thaksin is seen as a talented but opportunistic investor, cavalier to lese majeste laws and renders less deference to the status-conscious military.

Yingluck mistakenly promoted an amnesty bill in Parliament in 2013 allegedly to bring harmony into a divided nation, but would have also allowed brother Thaksin to return from exile. In the uproar, she dissolved parliament and slated an election as decreed by the constitution, a process boycotted by the yellows who clamor for reforms first before elections (read, Yingluck resigns) and watched by the military and the police. With the abstentions, it will not adequately represent the country's will regardless of how well polling rights is exercised, but it has created the white shirts who ditto the yellows' desire for change but promote the reds' adherence to the electoral process. The royal palace will most likely just listen to the chants of the saffron draped Theravada monks.

On Saipan, I would just sit back and eat a Laplae durian, finger a plate of phat thai, nibble on a Garapan Thursday night saté, and watch the news on the shutting down of Bangkok as poor Yingluck Shinawatra helplessly looks out, knowing that the Land of the Free will now always have the reds, the yellows and the whites in the streets with their banners, placards, and flowers in their hair.

Regardless of electoral outcome, Yingluck will be remembered for her refusal to be confrontational in response to the crisis, preferring the lessons of Thai cuisine: balance the mixed taste of diverse ingredients and spices. I hope she survives.



**EDITORIAL POLICY**

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

## Indigenous discontent

**W**e've heard arguments on issues such as the call for "renegotiation" of the Covenant agreement. Folks with greater insight disagree with the view that our status is limited to the statutory nature or structure of U.S. Public Law 94-241.

In short, inherent under the law is an agreement that must be followed. It sets apart the unique relationship we have with the feds governed by the agreement. It means the NMI isn't a territory of the U.S., though a part of it fostered under the agreement.

It seems that a large part of the dysfunctional relationship is attributable to the habitual treatment of the CNMI as a territory. It's a tool used by the feds as a premise to move in unilaterally without resolutely dignifying pertinent provisions of the agreement. The distinction in our relationship is founded under the agreement.

### Kilili misses reading Nobamacare

Troubling that our esteemed delegate has amazingly and consistently missed the mark as to be clueless on major federal policy matters. For instance, why would Kilili support the 906-page fraud-ridden Obamacare that raised health premiums here by 40 to 45 percent? Our share of deductibles has also increased, including another 40 percent spike in medication.

The Medicaid cushion you've asserted is another lie and you need to tread other delays under the law including equal coverage.

While Kilili piles 40-plus percent on health premiums, the administration reduced pension pay by 25 percent for a total loss in buying power for ALL retirees by 65 percent. This doesn't include the impending food price increases and the every other full moon spike in power rates.

Is misery in subterranean familial misery the halo of your accomplishment, Kilili? Is hardship imposed on retirees and employees your gift of scourge because you and your staff are exempt from Obamacare?

Does your exemption grant you the cavalierly attitude to impose hardship on people you represent whose meager income have been so decimated since last year? Is this a reason for seeking re-election? Some perspicuous explanation (clearly stated) is in order!

## A good day to remember a bad time

By JOHN M. CRISP  
MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**M**artin Luther King Jr. Day always coincides with the beginning of the spring semester at my college. So, over the weekend that includes the holiday, I usually ask my students to read King's "Letter from Birmingham Jail." Ordinarily a few of them have seen it before, but it's new to most, and for many it's a bit of an eye-opener.

King went to Birmingham, Ala., in 1963 to support non-violent protests of the city's pervasive racism and was promptly thrown in jail for parading without a permit. Eight white clergymen published a letter saying that, of course, they agreed with King that all men deserve equality and that, eventually, equality and freedom will come.

But they criticized King's methods, arguing that reform should occur through negotiation and in the courts, not as the result of public protests. They asked, essentially, What's the hurry?

"Letter from Birmingham Jail" is King's eloquent answer.

To most of us, slavery is an abstraction, a brutal element of an economic system that was abolished a century before King marched in Birmingham. But I want my students to understand that, in fact, King was battling a more insidious, but no less destructive, institution, a systematic and unequal segregation that persisted in much of America well into the lifetimes of citizens still alive today.

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## Here's an idea

I lived on Saipan with my parents during the boom years. In fact, I finished high school at Mt. Carmel in 1990 and later earned associate degrees at NMC in 1992. I currently reside and work here in the United Arab Emirates.

Some time ago, I was pleasantly surprised to be served Fiji bottled water at an upscale coffee shop in Dubai Mall. I would later discover that it is also being sold in supermarkets. I thought that if a small island nation like Fiji can export a product that is able to effectively compete with global brands such as Evian and Perrier, then why can't the CNMI do likewise? I must add that over the weekend, I watched live the Abu Dhabi Golf Championship—the same high-profile annual event that

### It's the right of citizens

Now we send our young men and women to the frontlines of Afghanistan, fighting side-by-side with fellow soldiers whose rights are full while ours is subjugated in a non-voting delegate on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives. Aren't they in fact U.S. citizens? Where's the essence of the historic chime that "all men are created equal?"

Now, if Congressman George Miller is factually a staunch supporter of human rights, why hasn't he moved to convey to ALL U.S. citizens in territories and the CNMI their rights to equal representation in the most powerful chambers on Earth? The salient point is "citizen's rights" even the founding fathers would support by a hundred-fold. Otherwise, it remains an ugly political scar that cements inequality in perpetuity. It has to be made equally applicable to all citizens forthwith!

You need to critically review what's in the agreement and spirit by which you must defend it. Humiliating your success in Washington securing a reputation for the CNMI as a "welfare state." How about employing the culture of responsibility over "freebies?" It's all about vision and mindfulness in forging the future of these isles for posterity, isn't it?

If you look with greater depth you would have learned and appreciated how our ancestors have swallowed the bitterest pill of humiliation and ruination handed down by colonial powers just to protect ownership and control of our destiny as permanent hosts of these isles. In other words, it's our origin in the founding of tradition in these islands that require an understanding and empathy on indigenous relationship with the land and sea.

Aren't these issues worth fighting for in the U.S. House of Representatives? In other words, representation must focus on turning the economic foundation of these isles into one of stability in prosperity founded on anchor or lasting investments, not the cheap agenda to turn the islands and its people into a permanent welfare state. It means full representation that ensures citizens the real fruits of a democracy. Have you a vision that sees beyond the years?

You've missed the boat and therein you'll find the clear voice of indigenous discontent. Hell, even empires crumble!

Here's an example: King tells the clergymen who objected to his methods that maybe they'll understand the urgency of his mission "when you take a cross-country drive and find it necessary to sleep night after night in the uncomfortable corners of your automobile because no hotel will accept you."

This complaint, among a long list, in King's "Letter," of worse injustices suffered by American blacks, reminds me of "The Negro Travelers' Green Book," a travel guide published by Victor H. Green from 1936 to 1964.

Green saw a need for a guide listing hotels, restaurants, gas stations, and other businesses that "negroes" could patronize "without embarrassment," clearly a euphemism for more serious insults and threats that blacks endured under Jim Crow.

The 1949 edition says, "The Jewish press has long published information about places that are restricted and there are numerous publications that give the gentile whites all kinds of information." And the 1956 edition understates: "The White has had no difficulties in getting accommodations, but with the Negro it has been different."

Perusing these guides is instructive: I don't know how far the "Green Book" was able to penetrate local markets, but the 1949 edition lists only eight restaurants and two hotels in Corpus Christi, Texas, my hometown, that traveling blacks could use "without embarrassment." One of the hotels is the Y.M.C.A.

By 1956, only six restaurants are listed. And the "Green Book"

paid Tiger Woods around \$2 million as an appearance fee in 2012. And guess what? The official and exclusive bottled water being sold and distributed at the venue was none other than Fiji water!

I believe the repatriated profits from the sale of Fiji water benefits the Fijian people at least in two major ways. First of all, they are a source of additional tax revenues that the government can use to fund public services. Second, they represent money that can potentially circulate in the local economy. If the bankrupt CNMI government can look into the feasibility of exporting bottled water via establishing a semipublic corporation or a joint venture with private enterprises, then not only can it possibly earn additional revenue, but also it can have a creative marketing tool for the struggling tourism industry. For instance: use a self-promoting brand name such as "Marianas" water; add in the label a picture of taga stones, flame trees and/or locals in traditional costume; and share a QR code and/or URL that directs to an informational/interactive website for CNMI tourists.

By JOHN DELROSARIO

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



### Failure at reading NMI radar

The opportunity to realistically reset our buttons is here. It seems, however, we're back in the saddle of *mañana*, ignoring once more anchor investments already in the harbor.

Remember the boom years when we had money rolling out our nostrils and ears or when every corner of paradise was smoldering with BBQ smoke?

We could reignite the same fire, reining in lasting investment sitting lazily in the harbor. It only needs the agent of change—local politicians—frustratingly oblivious to the scent of investment opportunities. Shall we lift our fingers now or do you continue sinking the livelihood of our people deeper in misery land of abject poverty?

The large needle on our radar screen has been spinning 24/7 while objects of opportunities shift positions. Are we literally physically incapable of discerning what's in the NMI radar? Is this the deaf, mute and blind syndrome?

■ ■ ■

It should be understood that the CNMI is resource-poor. We only have a single industry that is at the mercy of financial and natural disasters of nearby Japan and Asian countries. We must work on anchor investments that would grant some sense of stability to the economic foundation of the CNMI up ahead. Anchor investment is what the CNMI needs today.

If we ignore it, then give the CNMI another two decades before it buckles down to figuring out the fatal effects of its own self-inflicted negligence. By then it would be too late, as more of our simple villagers would be panting for air in the fatal sea of total economic destruction. It's in the palm of your hands. How about listening to a government "...by the people..."

can vouch only for Horace Crecy's Tourist Home as a place where a negro traveler can get a good night's sleep.

No wonder King and other blacks sometimes wound up spending nights in their cars.

Protests of injustices like these brought King to Birmingham, landed him in jail, and eventually cost him his life. His "Letter" makes for good reading every year around his birthday because it reminds us of the persistent nature of racism.

Slavery is a cancer; you either eradicate it or it kills you. But the kind of racism that King fought is a chronic disease that goes into remission but is difficult to cure.

Things have changed a lot since then, but "Letter from Birmingham Jail" reminds us of how recently the battle for racial justice was still being waged in our culture.

Sometimes political entities and other institutions have issued apologies to blacks for their participation in the injustices that King died to eliminate. In general, apologies feel like too little, too late. As a white man, it's not my place to say whether apologies are called for.

But the most valuable thing we can do is not to apologize, but to remember.

John M. Crisp teaches in the English Department at Del Mar College in Corpus Christi, Texas. Readers may send him email at jcrisp@delmar.edu.

During the Japanese period, CNMI lands were productive in raising sugar cane, so that tells me that growing agricultural products for local consumption and for export can be a viable source of income. If developing agriculture is not a priority of the current local government, then it must inspire cash-strapped groups (such as CNMI retirees) and entrepreneurs to think of possible products to export, so that there would finally be a replacement for the cash cow that the garment industry was.

A last resort would be to push for the end of food stamps so that a number of jobless locals would be more motivated to find work or start businesses, help jobless locals find employment off-island if they cannot acquire one in the Commonwealth, and rely on remittances of "overseas Chamorro/Carolinian workers" (OCWs).

Oscar N. Ragus






Al Ain, United Arab Emirates



Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

# The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
				
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly sunny with isolated showers. South winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly sunny and breezy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 85° ▼ 76°	▲ 86° ▼ 76°	▲ 86° ▼ 76°	▲ 86° ▼ 76°	▲ 86° ▼ 76°

### Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲ 85 ▼ 77
Palau	Showers	▲ 86 ▼ 76
Yap	Showers	▲ 89 ▼ 76
Chuuk	Showers	▲ 86 ▼ 79
Pohnpei	Showers	▲ 85 ▼ 79
Kosrae	Showers	▲ 85 ▼ 79
Majuro	Showers	▲ 85 ▼ 80

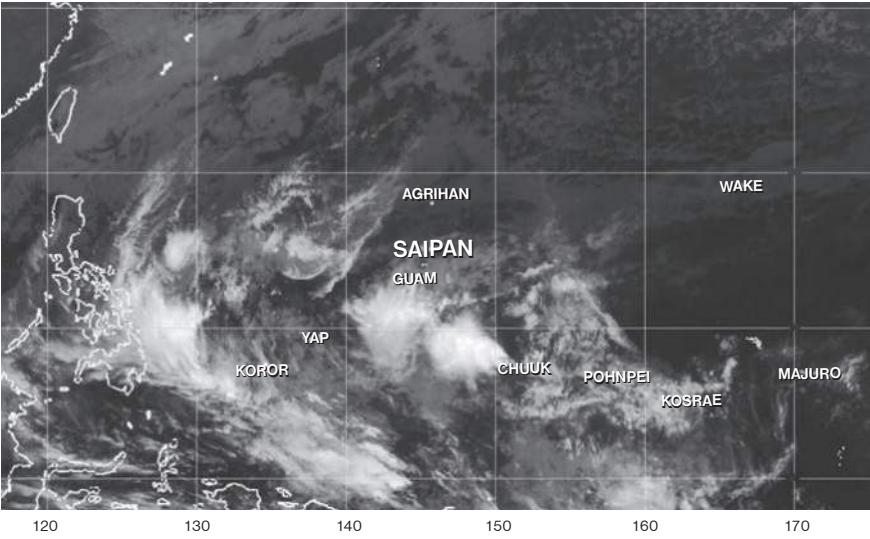
### Around The Globe

Auckland	Windy	▲ 68 ▼ 62
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲ 45 ▼ 25
Hong Kong	Sunny	▲ 62 ▼ 56
Honolulu	Showers	▲ 78 ▼ 62
London	Showers	▲ 48 ▼ 39
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲ 79 ▼ 49
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲ 81 ▼ 70
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	▲ 86 ▼ 63
Miami	Sunny	▲ 63 ▼ 45
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲ 19 ▼ 10
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲ 48 ▼ 37
Paris	Showers	▲ 41 ▼ 38
Pusan	Sunny	▲ 47 ▼ 39
Rome	Partly Cloudy	▲ 57 ▼ 45
Salem	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 47 ▼ 35
San Francisco	Sunny	▲ 67 ▼ 44
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲ 41 ▼ 30
Tokyo	Sunny	▲ 50 ▼ 33
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲ 20 ▼ 15

### Tides

Saipan Harbor				
5:06 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.4 Feet	
11:38 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet	
6:18 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.7 Feet	
11:38 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.5 Feet	

### Yesterday's Satellite Image



### PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2014

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A tropical disturbance is generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms south of Guam to near Chuuk within 190 miles of a line from 11N140E to 8N150E. A cold front extends southwestward from 22N180 to south of Wake Island near 17N167E then continues as a shear line that passes near Tinian at 15N145E to beyond 130E at 12N. Extensive cloudiness and patchy rain are seen along and up to 400 miles northwest of this boundary. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found northwest of Yap within 100 miles of a line from 15N130E to 16N134E to 14N140E. A near-equatorial trough extends east-southeastward from near 7N130E through a weak circulation centered southwest of Chuuk near 4N149E to end near EQ159E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring from west of Koror to southeast of Yap within 180 miles of a line from 8N130E to EQ142E. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers from east of Chuuk across Pohnpei and Kosrae states within 260 miles of a line from 10N151E to 5N164E.

### Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:47 AM	6:10 PM
Thursday	6:47 AM	6:10 PM
Friday	6:47 AM	6:11 PM
Saturday	6:47 AM	6:11 PM
Sunday	6:47 AM	6:12 PM

### Moonrise/Moonset

Today	11:01 PM	10:25 AM
Thursday	11:52 PM	11:06 AM
Friday		11:50 AM
Saturday	12:46 AM	12:37 PM
Sunday	1:43 AM	1:29 PM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

## GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

#### PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

#### CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

#### REQUIREMENTS

##### For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

##### For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

#### HOW TO SUBMIT

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## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 3, 2013

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
<b>SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)</b> UA5070 4:15am 5:05am Daily UA5068 8:40am 9:30am Daily UA5039 1:35pm 3:10pm 1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota  UA5038 2:20pm 3:10pm 2, 3, 6 UA5078 6:05pm 6:55pm Daily UA5072 9:50pm 10:40pm Daily	<b>GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN</b> UA5069 2:45am 3:35am Daily UA5071 7:15am 8:05am Daily UA5039 12:10pm 1:00pm 1, 4, 5, 7 UA5038 12:10pm 1:50pm 2, 3, 6 via Rota  UA5077 4:45pm 5:35pm Daily UA5079 8:30pm 9:20pm Daily
<b>SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)</b> UA5039 1:35pm 2:10pm 1, 4, 5, 7	<b>GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)</b> UA5038 12:10pm 12:45pm 2, 3, 6
<b>ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)</b> UA5039 2:40pm 3:10pm 1, 4, 5, 7	<b>ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN</b> UA5038 1:15pm 1:50pm 2, 3, 6
<b>SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)</b> OZ119 4:00am 6:40am Daily	<b>OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN</b> OZ120 9:50pm 2:20am+1 Daily
<b>SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)</b> DL287 6:00am 8:40am Daily DL297 4:30pm 7:20pm Daily	<b>NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN</b> DL298 10:25am 3:00pm Daily DL288 8:55pm 1:30am+1 Daily
<b>SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)</b> OZ608 3:10am 6:20am 1, 4, 5, 7	<b>BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN</b> OZ607 9:00pm 1:50am+1 3, 4, 6, 7
<b>SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)</b> OZ606 2:10am 6:00am 1 D2102 2:20am 5:50am 3 OZ606 2:40am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 OZ6063 3:30am 7:20am 4, 7 (will increase eff Jan 29)  D2104 2:00pm 5:30pm 6 OZ604 3:20pm 7:10pm Daily	<b>SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN</b> D2101 8:30am 2:00pm 3 OZ603 9:00am 2:20pm Daily D2103 7:30pm 1:00am+1 6 OZ605 7:40pm 1:00am+1 7 OZ605 8:10pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 OZ6053 9:10pm 2:30am+1 3, 6 (will increase eff Jan 29)
<b>SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)</b> 3U8648 6:10am 8:40am 1, 4, 5, 7	<b>SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN</b> 3U8647 10:40pm 5:00am+1 3, 4, 6, 7
<b>SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)</b> MU764 4:00am 8:00am 1, 5	<b>BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN</b> MU763 7:20pm 3:00am+1 4, 7
<b>SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)</b> 3U8646 4:20am 7:30am 2, 6	<b>GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN</b> 3U8645 7:40pm 3:00am+1 1, 5
<b>SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)</b> OZ606/701 2:10am 11:15am 1 via ICN OZ606/701 2:40am 11:15am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN  UA5070/191 4:15am 9:05am 3, 6 via GUM DL287/473 6:00am 10:55pm Daily via NRT UA5068/PR111 8:40am 4:45pm 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM  UA5039/183 1:35pm 9:30pm 5 via Guam UA5039/183 1:35pm 9:50pm 1, 4, 7 via Guam  UA5038/183 2:20pm 9:30pm 2 via GUM UA5078/183 6:05pm 9:50pm 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM  OZ604/703 3:20pm 11:00pm Daily via ICN	<b>MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN</b> OZ704/603 12:10am 2:20pm Daily PR110/UA5072 7:35am 5:35pm 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM  DL172/288 7:45am 1:30am+1 Daily via NRT UA190/5077 9:55am 5:35pm 2, 7 via Guam UA190/5079 10:00am 5:35pm 3, 6 via GUM OZ702/605 12:30pm 1:00am+1 7 via ICN OZ702/605 12:30pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN  UA184/5071 10:55pm 8:05am+1 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM UA184/5071 11:59pm 8:05am+1 2, 5 via GUM
<b>SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)</b> OZ606/721 2:10am 11:50am 1 via ICN OZ606/721 2:40am 11:50am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN  UA5068/179 8:40am 10:35pm 1, 5 via GUM UA5038/179 2:20pm 10:35pm 3, 6 via GUM OZ604/749 3:20pm 11:00pm Daily via ICN	<b>HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN</b> OZ746/603 12:30am 2:20pm Daily via ICN OZ722/605 1:15pm 1:00am+1 7 via ICN OZ724/605 1:50pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN  UA180/5071 11:10pm 8:05am+1 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air; D: Dynamic Airways.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

## FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
<b>Guam-Rota</b>				FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
<b>Rota-Saipan</b>				FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
<b>Guam-Rota</b>				FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
<b>Rota-Saipan</b>							
FRE 1750	17:50	18:20	Daily	<b>Tinian-Saipan</b>			
<b>Saipan-Rota</b>				FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
<b>Rota-Guam</b>				FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
<b>Saipan-Rota</b>				FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
<b>Saipan-Tinian</b>				FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily



## NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- \*11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at [www.nmicrimestoppers.com](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.com)



# Educational institute welcomes new partner in CNMI

**ORLANDO, Florida**—The American Hotel & Lodging Educational Institute has signed a memorandum of understanding with its new training partner in the Pacific, Island Training Solutions, a full-service training company located on Saipan in the Commonwealth of The Northern Mariana Islands.

The company, which conducts safety, compliance, and staff development training for businesses, government agencies, and nonprofit organizations, will initially offer EI's Guest Service Gold training and Certified Guest Service Professional (CGSP®) certification and START workforce development curriculum.

Tourism is the foundation of the Northern Mariana Islands' economy. The Commonwealth is located between



Island Training Solutions owner Jim Arenovski, right, shakes hands with American Hotel & Lodging Educational Institute president Robert L. Steele III, CHA, after signing a memorandum of understanding.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Hawaii and the Philippines and is a vacation destination for people from Japan, Korea, China, and Russia. While the area has long relied on a population of foreign labor to staff the hospitality sector, changing immigration rules made it clear that efforts were needed to provide skills training to local residents who wanted to work in hospitality. Jim Arenovski, owner of Island Training Solutions, explored various training programs before turning to EI, which offers globally-recognized training and certification.

"Island Training Solutions is proud to be able to offer certification classes through the American Hotel and Lodging Educational Institute. The residents, resort properties, restaurants, and tourists will all benefit

from this internationally-recognized hospitality industry training that will help improve local employment and retention as well as improve the guest experience for our tourists who visit our islands," said Arenovski.

"Island Training Solutions is working with The Latte Training Academy, a non-profit group dedicated to tourism/hospitality education in the region, to seek and manage grant, scholarship, and other funding opportunities to help bring these Educational Institute classes to NMI residents at a low or no cost to the individual," he added.

To contact Island Training Solutions, e-mail [islandtrainingsolutions@gmail.com](mailto:islandtrainingsolutions@gmail.com) or call (670) 287-7037. To learn more about EI's global partnerships, visit [www.ahlei.org/partners](http://www.ahlei.org/partners). (PR)

## Ribbon-cutting for Guam National Guard's newest facility

The Guam National Guard's newest multi-million dollar facility will be officially opened with a ribbon cutting ceremony today, Jan. 22, at 1:30pm, at the Barrigada Readiness Center.

The contract for the \$19 million facility was awarded by the Naval Facilities Engineering Command to Marianas to Bulltrack Watts, LLC, in September 2011 for the design and construction of the project. Construction on the Combined Support Maintenance Shop began in April 2012.

This new building is the first state-of-the-art maintenance shop for the Guam National Guard. This facility provides maintenance on wheeled tactical vehicles; towed vehicles; and engineering communications, electronics, small arms and other government-owned equipment.

The CSMS main building has a total area of 34,851 gross square feet and includes three maintenance bays, six storage bays, several private and open office areas, supply and tool storage/dispensing rooms, lubrication storage, classroom, a small library for resource materials, toilets, showers and a break room. Oversized mechanical and electrical rooms provide sufficient area for future equipment needed for future expansion of the facility. It also includes a 500 GSF Controlled Waste Handling building, 500 GSF Flammable Material Facility, battery storage, and military vehicle parking outside of the main facility.

Additionally, there is a standby generator, washrack and a loading ramp.

In its entire 33-year's existence, the Guam National Guard has never had a fully

functional maintenance facility to adequately support its mission requirements. Today, we finally open the doors to a fully functional and state-of-the-art maintenance shop.

The CSMS is the second Guam National Guard facility to meet the U.S. Green Building Council Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design-New Construction (LEED-NC) Silver rating. (PR)

The Guam National Guard's newest multi-million dollar facility will be officially opened with a ribbon cutting ceremony today, Jan. 22, at 1:30pm.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



## BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS



Happy birthday to Luis Patrick Reyes! A son, brother, father, husband, and uncle like you deserves the best, today and every day! We love you more than you'll ever know! Let's celebrate another joyful year ahead and to one more candle to add to your cake! Happy birthday Lu!



Happy 6th birthday to Santino Joshua Camacho Limes! May you have a wonderful day with sweets and treats! God bless you always! Much love from your BFF, KaiLani.



A very special 14th birthday shoutout to our youngest bombdigitty-like-tiktik, best baby sister, daughter, and friend, Charlene "Aling" Tagabuel Moded. Hugs and kisses from your family and friends.



## COLOR GUARD DUTIES

Saipan Southern High School Manta Ray Battalion performs color guard duties at the opening ceremony of the Little League Game held at the Ada Gym Baseball Field on Jan. 17, 2014. From left to right: C/CPT Lizel Bandalas, C/Sgt. 1st Class Ayana Ongelungel, C/1ST LT Danielle Mafnas and C/2ND LT Steffie Alipio.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Business

Oxfam report highlights widening income gap between rich, poor

By JIM PUZZANGHERA  
LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON—As business and political leaders gather in Davos, Switzerland, to discuss the improving world economy, new evidence emerged about how much the rich have become richer—and how much further the poor are falling behind.

The 85 richest people on Earth now have the same amount of wealth as the bottom half of the global population, according to a report released Monday by the British humanitarian group Oxfam International.

The findings highlight the widening gap between rich and poor ahead of the annual World Economic Forum this week. The report, and others recently on the issue, could boost efforts in Washington to increase the federal minimum wage, which President Barack Obama has made a priority.

“It is staggering that in the 21st century, half of the world’s population own no more than a tiny elite whose numbers could all sit comfortably in a single train carriage,” said Winnie Byanyima, Oxfam’s executive director.

“Widening inequality is creating a vicious circle where wealth and power are increasingly concentrated in the hands of a few, leaving the rest of us to fight over crumbs from the top table,” Byanyima said.

The bottom half of the population—about 3.5

The rich get richer

Inequality is widening in both developed and developing nations. According to a new report, the world’s 85 richest people now own nearly half the world’s wealth.



billion people—account for about \$1.7 trillion, or about 0.7 percent of the world’s wealth, according to the Oxfam report, titled “Working for the Few.”

That’s the same amount of wealth attributed to the world’s 85 richest people.

Those wealthy elite are a small part of the richest 1 percent of the world’s population, which combined has amassed about 46 percent of the world’s wealth, or \$110 trillion, according to the report. The top 1 percent had 65 times the total wealth of the bottom half of the population.

Dean Baker, co-director of the Center for Economic and Policy Research in Washington, said he’s not surprised by the Oxfam report and others showing increased inequality between rich and poor.

“As long as we maintain high rates of unemployment, I don’t see any prospect of reversing this situation,” Baker said. “The only time where workers in the middle and bottom of the wage distribution were able to achieve sustained gains was in the late ’90s when we had low unemployment.”

He’s less concerned with measures of wealth, which have been inflated by stock market gains and could reverse with a market downturn. But he noted that income growth for poor and middle-class Americans has lagged behind that of the rich in the last three decades.

The Oxfam findings and others should help build support for an increase in the federal minimum wage, Baker said.

In a report last week, the World Economic Forum said widening income inequality was the risk most likely to cause serious damage in the next decade. Obama recently called the expanding gap between rich and poor a bigger threat to the U.S. economy than the budget deficit.

A Gallup poll released Monday found two-thirds of Americans were dissatisfied with the way income and wealth are distributed in the nation. The wealth gap was a factor in nationwide rallies last month by fast-food workers seeking higher wages.

Oxfam said the United States has led a worldwide growth in wealth concentration.

The percentage of income held by the richest 1 percent in the U.S. has grown nearly 150 percent from 1980 through 2012. That small elite has received 95 percent of wealth created since 2009, after the financial crisis, while the bottom 90 percent of Americans have become poorer, Oxfam said.

The uneven gains of the economic recovery, in which many people have had to take lower-paying jobs, have exacerbated income inequality, said Christine Owens, executive director of the National Employment Law Project.

“The people who are losing ground are the people in the middle and the bottom” of the economic spectrum, Owens said.

Wedding insurance expands as nuptials get pricier

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP)—Worried about the groom getting cold feet? There’s an insurance policy for that.

With the cost of the average American wedding reaching about \$26,000, insurers have been selling a growing number of policies to protect against losses from extreme weather, illness and, in one firm’s case, even a sudden change of heart.

Cheryl Winter spent \$500 for Hartford-based Travelers Cos. Inc. to cover her daughter’s \$50,000 destination wedding last October in New Orleans, where her biggest concern was a potential hurricane. The weather cooperated, but the limousine never showed up. Her daughter took a taxi cab to the church, and they used the insurance policy to claim the deposit money they couldn’t get back from the limo driver.

“No one wants to be walking in the French Quarter in a long gown and high heels,” said Winter, who lives in the Houston area.

The insurance is offered by a small number of U.S. companies. Insurers declined to provide data on the number of customers beyond saying they are growing steadily. It can cover losses from issues ranging from bankrupt wedding halls to cancellations forced by unexpected military deployments. Travelers says issues with vendors account for about a quarter of the claims, with most of those related to issues with photographers or videographers.

For Travelers, an insurance giant with annual revenue of \$26 billion, the policies will not make or break the bottom line. But the wedding insurance it began selling in 2007 is also a way to connect with a couple who might later think of the company for home insurance and other life milestones.

“It could be the beginning of a relationship with a young couple,” said Ed Charlebois, a Travelers



This Oct. 12, 2013 photo provided by Julia Bailey shows Shannon and Justin Peach, riding in a carriage after their wedding in New Orleans.

vice president for personal insurance.

Wedsafe, backed by Aon, also offers wedding insurance, which differs little from the specialty insurance that firms may offer for other kinds of events and celebrations.

For parents concerned about a relationship souring before the exchange of vows, Fireman’s Fund Insurance Co. offers change of heart insurance. It’s been available since 2007, but the program administrator said the fraud rate soared in the early years as policies were bought for couples who were known to be fighting. That coverage now applies only if the bride or groom calls off the wedding more than nine months beforehand.

“Coverage does not exist once you hit the altar,” said administrator Rob Nuccio of R.V. Nuccio & As-

sociates. “The only ones who were buying it were the ones who knew they would have a claim.”

Kyle Brown, director of the Bakersfield, Calif.-based Bridal Association of America, said he recommends wedding insurance, but he estimates policies are taken out for less than half of 1 percent of the more than 2 million weddings held annually in the U.S.

“Nobody likes to think about the bad side,” he said.

Winter said some people told her insurance would be a waste of money for her daughter’s wedding, but she read various reviews and decided it was worth protecting the investment. She’s planning to buy a policy for another daughter’s wedding in 2015.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Kraft Velveeta Cheesy Skillets recalled over soy

NEW YORK (AP)—A food maker is recalling some Kraft Velveeta pasta and ground beef products because some labels left off soy, an allergen, as an ingredient. About 1.77 million pounds of Kraft Velveeta Cheesy Skillets Singles Ultimate Cheeseburger Mac are being recalled. They contain hydrolyzed soy protein and dried soy sauce. Those ingredients were not listed on some labels. The products, made by Truitt Brothers Inc. in East Bernstadt, Ky., have expiration dates of March 2 to Oct. 23 on them. They were sent to Kraft Foods distribution centers and retailers worldwide between May 2013 and January. No other Velveeta or Kraft products are affected. No illness has been reported. Consumers with questions can call the Kraft Foods consumer relations center at 1-800-396-5512.

UN: more than 200 million jobless last year

GENEVA (AP)—The United Nations’ labor agency says the number of unemployed people around the world rose above 200 million last year as job opportunities failed to grow at the same pace as the global workforce. The International Labor Organization said Monday that an estimated 201.8 million people were unemployed in 2013. That’s 4.9 million more than the previous year. An annual ILO report points to an uneven global economic recovery and says East and South Asia together accounted for more than 45 percent of last year’s increase. The agency puts last year’s global unemployment rate at 6 percent, unchanged from 2012. It says it expects little improvement this year, projecting that the jobless rate will edge up to 6.1 percent and the number of unemployed will rise another 4.2 million.

STOCK PORTFOLIO

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
16,458.56	1,838.70	4,197.58
+41.55	-7.19	-21.11
+0.25%	-0.39%	-0.50%

EXCHANGE RATES

Hong Kong Dollar	7.7565	Philippine Peso	45.1955
Australian Dollar	1.1337	Singapore Dollar	1.2763
British Pound	0.6082	South Korean Won	1065.8975
Canadian Dollar	1.0955	Swiss Franc	0.9120
Chinese Yuan	6.0504	Taiwan Dollar	30.1389
Euro	0.7380	Thailand Baht	32.8149



# Nation

## 2 deaths confirmed in Omaha plant explosion

**OMAHA, Neb. (AP)**—An explosion Monday morning that brought down part of an animal feed processing plant in Omaha left two people dead and 10 others seriously hurt, authorities said.

The search for bodies in the crippled International Nutrition plant progressed slowly Monday, but the death toll wasn't likely to get bigger.

Omaha Police Lt. Darci Tierney said Monday evening that all 38 of the workers who were in the building at the time had been accounted for. Through much of the day, authorities declined to say how many died while they sorted out what happened.

Officials say two died, 10 were hospitalized and seven were hurt but refused treatment. The other 19 workers escaped.

Search-and-rescue experts

worked into Monday evening to stabilize the building. It wasn't immediately clear whether their work would continue into Tuesday.

"We haven't cleared the building yet because of the significant risk to our people," Interim Omaha Fire Chief Bernie Kanger said.

Authorities don't know what caused the blast, but Kanger noted that there were no hazardous chemicals at the plant. International Nutrition makes products that are added to livestock and poultry feed to make them more nutritious.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration will determine the cause.

The explosion knocked out the lights in the building and sent workers scrambling for safety.

Nate Lewis said he was on

the first floor when he heard the explosion. The building went dark, so the 21-year-old used light from his cellphone to make his way across the production floor and outside.

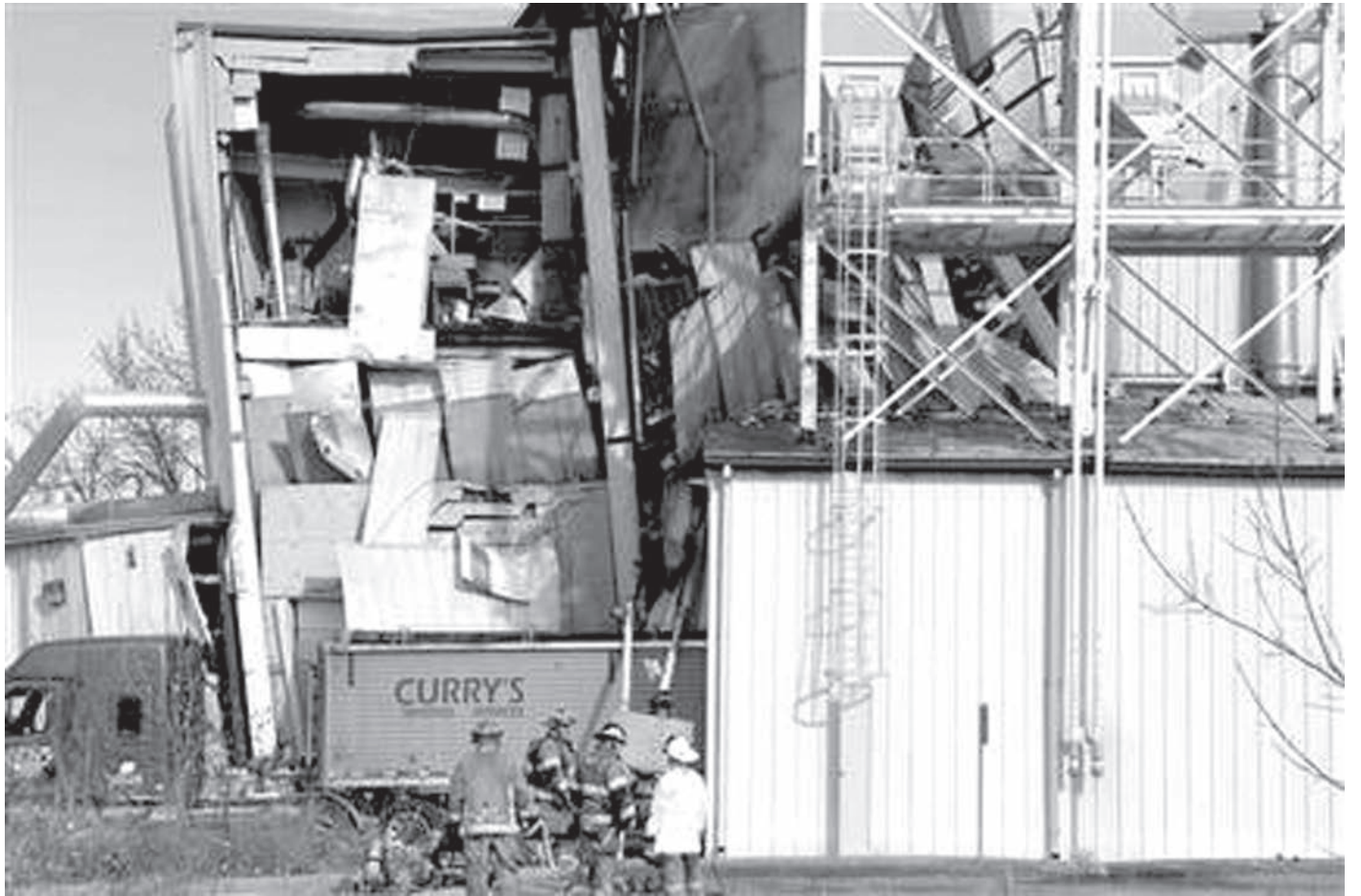
"I was a production line worker, although I don't know if I want to be that anymore," said Lewis, who's worked at International Nutrition for about four months.

Worker Jamar White said he heard a loud crack and looked up to see the back wall of the building collapsing.

"I ran at least 150 feet," White said. "I ran far enough

to make sure nothing else would keep falling."

Afterward, White said, he could see inside the third floor of the building where at least two co-workers were screaming for help.



Firefighter stage outside the International Nutrition plant in Omaha, Neb., Monday, where a fire and explosion took place Jan. 20, 2014.

### ACROSS THE NATION

#### Truck slams into NYC home, driver dead

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Authorities say the driver of a cement truck was killed and four people were injured when the truck slammed into a 3-story home in the Bronx, causing the building to partially collapse. Police say the driver was exiting the Major Deegan Expressway in the University Heights section just before 6:30 p.m. Monday when for some unknown reason the truck careened into several vehicles before plowing into the home. The truck driver was pronounced dead at the scene. Police say four people in the vehicles struck by the truck suffered non-life threatening injuries. No one was injured in the home, which sustained structural damage. One firefighter suffered a minor injury.

#### Student shot on Widener University campus in Pa.

**CHESTER, Pa. (AP)**—Authorities say a student at Widener University in suburban Philadelphia is being treated at a local hospital after he was shot on campus and the university warned students to remain indoors while police search for the suspected shooter. The school said on its website that the student was shot near the Schwartz Athletic Center on the school's campus around 8:45 p.m. Monday. The victim was being treated at Crozer Chester Medical Center but his condition wasn't known. The university said the student's family was with him. Widener is a private, co-ed university located in Chester, Pennsylvania located about 15 miles southwest of Philadelphia.

#### Cleveland gunman

#### at large after killing 5-year-old

**CLEVELAND (AP)**—Police on Monday sought information on a gunman who killed a 5-year-old girl and shot her mother in the head while the two of them sat in a vehicle in a residential neighborhood. Authorities identified the slain girl as Jermani Brooks. Her mother, 33-year-old Noni Brooks, was hospitalized in fair condition. The two were shot Sunday night on Cleveland's west side. Police said a man in a green SUV pulled up to their vehicle, got out and opened fire before fleeing. Police tracking the vehicle and the man surrounded an address in the city briefly on Monday with SWAT team negotiators, but the man wasn't there.

#### Family of man held in NKorea worried, encouraged

**SEATTLE (AP)**—The family of an American missionary held more than a year in North Korea was heartbroken and encouraged by a brief news conference in which Kenneth Bae, wearing a gray cap and inmate's uniform with the number 103 on his chest, apologized and said he committed anti-government acts. "Our end goal is to see Kenneth reunited so he can recover emotionally and physically. He has chronic health problems," family friend Derek Sciba told The Associated Press. Sciba is a friend of Bae's sister, Terri Chung of Edmonds, and part of a group pushing for Bae's release. "On the one hand it's heartbreaking to see him in a prison uniform at the mercy of folks in North Korea, but on the other hand it's encouraging to see him and that he's able to speak," Sciba said.

## Speeches, marches honor Martin Luther King Jr.

**ATLANTA (AP)**—As the nation remembered and reflected Monday on the legacy of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., leaders and everyday Americans talked about how far the country has come in the past 50 years and how much more is to be done.

At Ebenezer Baptist Church in King's hometown of Atlanta, civil rights leaders and members of King's own family spoke about poverty, violence, health care and voting rights, all themes from the civil rights struggle that still resonate to this day.

"There is much work that we must do," King's daughter Bernice King said. "Are we afraid, or are we truly committed to the

work that must be done?"

The event in Atlanta featured music, songs and choirs and was one of many celebrations, marches, parades and community service projects held Monday across the nation to honor the slain civil rights leader. It was about 50 years ago today that King had just appeared on the cover of Time magazine as its Man of the Year, and the nation was on the cusp of passing the Civil Rights Act of 1964. King would win the Nobel Peace Prize later that year.

Georgia Gov. Nathan Deal said not many states could boast a native son that merited a national holiday. "But we Georgians can," he told the audience.

Deal said this year he would work with state legislators to find a way to honor King at the Georgia Capitol, which drew a standing ovation. He did not give any specifics, but civil rights leaders have suggested a statue. The only current tribute to King at the state Capitol is a portrait inside the Statehouse.

"I think that more than just saying kind thoughts about him we ought to take action ourselves," said Deal, a Republican. "That's how we embed truth into our words. I think it's time for Georgia's leaders to follow in Dr. King's footsteps and take action, too."

In the fall, a statue of 19th century white supremacist politician and newspaperman Tom Watson was removed from the Capitol.

Deal also touched on criminal justice reforms his administration has tried to make, including drug and mental health courts, saying too many people are not being rehabilitated in prisons.

"Let's build a monument, but the monument should inspire us to build a better world," said the Atlanta event's keynote speaker, the Rev. Raphael Warnock. He also said the growing disparities in income, opportunity and health care are indications of a continuing struggle for equality decades after King's death.

## 911 recordings released in Md. exorcism deaths

**GERMANTOWN, Md. (AP)**—Montgomery County Police have released 911 calls related to the deaths of two children in Maryland, deaths a police attributed to two women who believed they were performing an exorcism.

The release of the recordings Monday comes two days after police charged Monifa Sanford and Zakieya Latrice Avery with killing two of Avery's children, ages 1 and 2. The women are also facing attempted-murder charges for injuring the chil-

dren's siblings, ages 5 and 8.

Police had said previously that they were called Thursday to the Germantown home where the women lived after a 911 caller reported a child unattended in a vehicle. By the time the police arrived, the child was no longer in the car and no one answered the door at a nearby home. Police returned Friday when a neighbor called 911 after noticing a car with the door open and a knife that appeared to have blood on it. That's when the children were found dead

inside a nearby home. Police said they suffered multiple stab wounds.

In a 911 phone call from Thursday about 10:15 p.m., a male caller reports a baby being left unattended in a blue Toyota Corolla. While the man is talking to the operator, he reports that two women have come out for the child and are "attacking" the caller and walking after him. He can be heard telling someone, "You need to back up off me, ma'am" and "A baby in the car for an hour is my business."

He later tells the 911 operator that one of the women is talking to herself.

In a 911 call from 9:30 a.m. Friday a female caller reports seeing a blue Toyota with a door open and a knife with blood on it.

"I heard loud noises in the night," says the woman, a neighbor.

She adds that she heard what sounded like "jumping" and "running" but didn't think anything of it because there were four children living in the home.



## Asia

## Jailed American appears before reporters in NKorea

**PYONGYANG, North Korea** (AP)—An American missionary who has been jailed in North Korea for more than a year appeared before reporters Monday and appealed to the U.S. government to do its best to secure his release.

The missionary, Kenneth Bae, made the comments at what he called a press conference held at his own request. He was under guard during the appearance. It is not unusual for prisoners in North Korea to say after their release that they spoke in similar situations under duress.

Wearing a gray cap and inmate's uniform with the number 103 on his chest, Bae spoke in Korean during the brief appearance, which was attended by The Associated Press and a few other foreign media in Pyongyang.

Bae, the longest-serving American detainee in North Korea in recent years, expressed hope that the U.S. government will do its best to win his re-

lease. He said he had not been treated badly in confinement.

"I believe that my problem can be solved by close cooperation and agreement between the American government and the government of this country," he said.

Bae was arrested in November 2012 while leading a tour group and accused of crimes against the state before being sentenced to 15 years of hard labor. He was moved to a hospital last summer in poor health.

He made an apology Monday and said he had committed anti-government acts.

Bae said a comment last month by U.S. Vice President Joe Biden had made his situation more difficult.

"The vice president of United States said that I was detained here without any reason," Bae said. "And even my younger sister recently told the press that I had not committed any crime and



American missionary Kenneth Bae speaks to reporters at Pyongyang Friendship Hospital in Pyongyang Monday, Jan. 20, 2014.

I know that the media reported it.

"I think these comments infuriated the people here enormously. And for this reason, I am in a difficult situation now. As a result, although I was in

medical treatment in the hospital for five months until now, it seems I should return to prison. And moreover there is greater difficulty in discussions about my amnesty."

## HK arrests woman in Indonesian maid abuse case

**HONG KONG** (AP)—Hong Kong police arrested a woman on Monday accused of beating her Indonesian maid in a case that has triggered outrage over its alleged brutality.

The 44-year-old woman, surnamed Law, was detained at the city's airport as she was trying to catch a flight to Thailand, Senior Inspector Chan Wai-man said.

The case drew attention after photos circulated last week among Indonesians in Hong Kong of Erwiana Sulistyaningsih's injuries, showing her face, hands and legs covered

with scabs and lacerations, and blackened skin around her feet.

Chan said police arrested the woman in connection with Sulistyaningsih's case as well as that of another maid who filed a complaint Sunday alleging she was also beaten by the same person.

An Indonesian migrant workers' union in Hong Kong said the maid, who arrived in May last year, was tortured by her employers on a daily basis and forced to wear a diaper.

The 23-year-old maid was allowed to return to Indonesia earlier this month after her injuries prevented her from working,

and was given the equivalent of only about \$9 by her employer, according to the union.

Fadli Iman, one of the doctors treating Sulistyaningsih in Indonesia, told the AP her condition is improving but she's still weak and often complains of dizziness.

"The wound on her head is the most serious," Iman said from Amal Sehat hospital in the Central Java town of Sragen.

He said a CT scan indicated she suffered frequent blows to the head with a hard object, resulting in a concussion.

"Hopefully, she will be able to

go home another week," he said.

He said a team of five specialists treating Sulistyaningsih is awaiting the arrival of four Hong Kong police officers who are visiting Indonesia to find out more about her injuries.

Sulistyaningsih's father, Rohmad Saputra, said his daughter was healthy when she left for Hong Kong last year but came back with wounds to her head and a broken nose and teeth.

She can't open her swollen eyes because she was punched almost every day and is unable to walk, he said.

## Climate change could spawn more frequent El Ninos

By DOYLE RICE  
USA TODAY

Some of the worst El Niños, the infamous climate patterns that shake up weather around the world, could double in frequency in upcoming decades due to global warming, says a new study out Sunday in the journal *Nature Climate Change*.

During an El Niño, water temperatures in the central and eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean tend to be warmer-than-average for an extended period of time—typically at least three to five months. This warm water brings about significant changes in global weather patterns.

The most powerful El Niños—such as the ones that developed in 1982-83 and 1997-98—are forecast to occur once every 10 years throughout the rest of this century, according to study lead author Wenju Cai of the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation, Australia's national science agency. Over the past 100 years or so, however these "extreme" El Niños occurred only once every 20 years, he said.

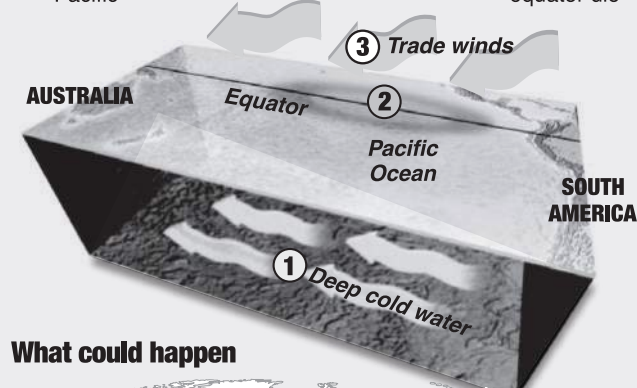
This means that the extreme

## More extreme weather events

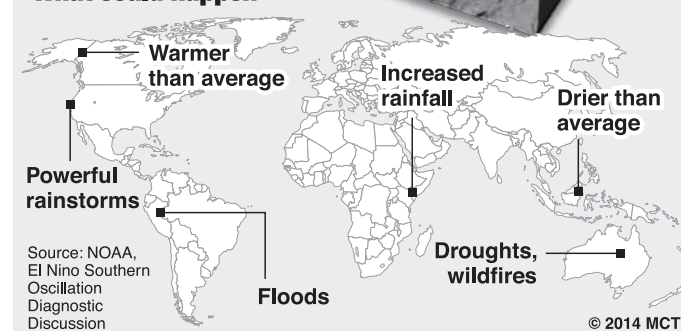
Devastating weather events associated with El Niño are expected to occur once every 10 years throughout the rest of the century if global warming remains unchecked.

## What is El Niño

- 1 Deep, cold water flows west across Pacific
- 2 Surface water off west coast of South America warms
- 3 Trade winds that normally blow toward equator die



## What could happen



Source: NOAA, El Niño Southern Oscillation Diagnostic Discussion  
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weather events fueled by El Niños—such as droughts and wildfires in Australia, floods in South America and powerful rainstorms along the U.S. West Coast—will occur more often.

The most recent El Niño ended in 2010.

The research results came from an aggregation of 20 climate models, which were used in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report.

The models found that this doubling of extreme El Niño episodes is caused by increased surface warming of the eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean because of climate change. This area of the ocean warms faster than the surrounding waters, the researchers found.

But Cai acknowledges those findings stand in contrast to previous studies that found no solid consensus on how El Niños will change because of global warming.

"The question of how global warming will change the frequency of extreme El Niño events has challenged scientists for more than 20 years," said study co-author Mike McPhaden of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Bae's appearance came weeks after North Korea freed an elderly American veteran of the Korean War who had been held for weeks for alleged crimes during the 1950-53 conflict.

State media said 85-year-old Merrill Newman was released because he apologized for his wrongdoing and that authorities also considered his age and medical condition. Newman said after his release that a videotaped confession was made under duress, although he was generally treated well.

North Korea has detained at least seven Americans since 2009. They were eventually deported or released without serving out their terms, some after prominent Americans such as former presidents Bill Clinton and Jimmy Carter traveled to Pyongyang.

A senior U.S. envoy had planned to visit North Korea in late August to discuss Bae's re-

lease, but Pyongyang withdrew its invitation at the last minute, accusing the United States of hostility. Analysts said North Korea was apparently trying to gain leverage in a long-running international standoff over its nuclear weapons program.

"We shouldn't take Kenneth Bae's comments merely as his own," said Kim Jin Moo, a North Korea expert at the South Korean state-run Korea Institute for Defense Analyses in Seoul. "The reason why North Korea had Kenneth Bae make this statement ... is that they want Washington to reach out to them."

"Bae's comments are an appeal to Washington to actively persuade Pyongyang to release him," Kim said.

Other foreign analysts say North Korea wants better ties with Seoul and Washington as a way to win foreign aid and investment to boost its struggling economy.

## ASIAN BRIEFS

## 113 Filipino military men test positive for drugs

**MANILA, Philippines** (AP)—More than 100 Philippine troops tested positive for illegal drugs during random testing last year, a military spokesman said Monday. Lt. Col. Ramon Zagala said that 113 mostly young and low-ranking personnel tested positive during drug testing that involved 20,000 troops in the 120,000-strong armed forces. If follow-up tests and an investigation confirm the initial findings, they may be discharged from service. A military statement did not say if the findings marked an increase in the number of drug users in the military, but that the army and navy, particularly the marines, have consistently registered the most number of personnel who tested positive in past years.

## Indonesian police detain 2 on terrorist charges

**JAKARTA, Indonesia** (AP)—Indonesian police have arrested two suspected Islamist extremists they allege were poised to launch a bomb attack on officers. The arrests took place Monday evening in the east Javanese city of Surabaya. In a statement, police said Tuesday that officers seized bombs and bomb-making equipment from a rented house the men were staying in. It says the men admitted to planning an attack on a police post in the city on Tuesday. Lawyers for the men weren't available. Indonesian law enforcement have had success in cracking down on extremists who carried out a string of attacks in the early 2000s, but the militants have proved resilient.

## Japan defends dolphin hunt after US criticism

**TOKYO** (AP)—A Japanese government spokesman defended an annual dolphin hunt Monday, after U.S. Ambassador Caroline Kennedy tweeted that she was deeply concerned by the inhumanity of the practice. Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga told a news conference that dolphin fishing in Japan is carried out appropriately in accordance with the law. "Dolphin fishing is a form of traditional fishing in our country," he said, responding to a question about Kennedy's criticism. "We will explain Japan's position to the American side." Kennedy tweeted on Saturday, "Deeply concerned by inhumaneness of drive hunt dolphin killing." She added that the U.S. government opposes such fishing. Drive hunt refers to the practice of herding the dolphins into a cove, where they are trapped and later killed.

## China begins naval drills in South China Sea

**BEIJING** (AP)—Chinese naval vessels including an island landing ship began drills Monday in the South China Sea, where China and several other nations are locked in territorial disputes. Two destroyers and China's largest amphibious landing craft started the exercises after sailing from the naval base on the southern island province of Hainan, the official Xinhua News Agency said. The ships also boast three helicopters and a company of marines. Xinhua quoted Commander Jiang Weilie as saying the drills would focus on integrated combat missions involving ships, submarines and aircraft, suggesting other units may also be involved.



# World

## Iran, US, Europe start implementing nuclear deal

**TEHRAN, Iran (AP)**—Iran unplugged banks of centrifuges involved in its most sensitive uranium enrichment work on

Monday, prompting the United States and European Union to partially lift economic sanctions as a landmark deal aimed at eas-

ing concerns over Iran's nuclear program went into effect.

The mutual actions—curbing atomic work in exchange for

some sanctions relief—start a six-month clock for Tehran and the world powers to negotiate a final accord that the Obama administration and its European allies say will be intended to ensure Iran cannot build a nuclear weapon.

In the meantime, the interim deal puts limits on Iran's program—though it continues low levels of uranium enrichment. Tehran denies its nuclear program is intended to produce a bomb.

The payoff to Iran is an injection of billions of dollars into its crippled economy over the next six months from the suspension of some sanctions—though other sanctions remain in place.

In part a reflection of a thaw between Washington and Tehran, the moves coincidentally occurred on the 33rd anniversary of the end of the Iran hostage crisis. The holding of 52 Americans for 444 days by radical Iranian students that ended Jan. 20, 1981 was followed by more than three decades of U.S.-Iranian enmity that only began to ease last year with signs that Iran was ready to meet U.S. demands and scale back its nuclear activities.

British Foreign Secretary William Hague called the deal “an important milestone”—but not the ultimate goal.

“It's important that other sanctions are maintained and the pressure is maintained for a comprehensive and final settlement on the Iranian nuclear issue,” Hague said.

The Europeans are aiming to start negotiations on a final deal in February, though no date or

venue has been agreed on yet. Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif said Saturday that Tehran is ready to enter talks as soon as the interim deal goes into force.

In the first step of the interim accord, Iranian state TV said authorities disconnected cascades of centrifuges producing 20-percent enriched uranium at the Natanz facility in central Iran. The broadcast said interna-

tional inspectors were on hand to witness the stoppage before leaving to monitor suspension of enrichment at Fordo, another site in central Iran.

Iran also started Monday to convert part of its stockpile of 20-percent enriched uranium to oxide, which can be used to produce nuclear fuel but is difficult to reconvert for weapons use, the official IRNA news agency said.

### Reining in Iran's nukes

*The first phase of the deal to halt Iran's nuclear capabilities begins January 20 and goes for six months. What Iran has agreed to do:*

#### Constraints on its nuclear program

**Halt** enrichment of uranium to 20 percent purity

**Neutralize** existing stockpile of 20 percent uranium; disconnect equipment that can reverse neutralization process

**Cap** stockpile of 3.5 percent low-enriched uranium, now at 7,153 kg

**Freeze** enrichment capacity by halting installation, operation of more centrifuges at Natanz, Fordow plants

**Freeze** further development of nuclear-related activities at unfinished Arak heavy water reactor that could produce plutonium for weapons

#### More transparency

- International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) daily inspections at Natanz and Fordow

- IAEA access to centrifuge assembly, production facilities

- Earlier notification on new nuclear facilities

- Updated design data on Arak reactor and more inspections;

- IAEA access to uranium mines, mills



Unidentified International Atomic Energy Agency inspectors and Iranian technicians are on hand to cut the connections between the twin cascades for 20 percent uranium enrichment at Natanz facility, some 200 miles (322 kilometers) south of the capital Tehran, Iran, Monday, Jan. 20, 2014.

## Comet-chasing probe wakes up, signals Earth

**BERLIN (AP)**—Waking up after almost three years of hibernation, a comet-chasing spacecraft sent its first signal back to Earth on Monday, prompting cheers from scientists who hope to use it to land the first space lander onto a comet.

The European Space Agency received the all-clear message from its Rosetta spacecraft at 7:18 p.m. (1818 GMT; 1:18 p.m. EST)—a message that had to travel some 800 million kilometers (500 million miles).

In keeping with the agency's effort to turn the tense wait for a signal into a social media event, the probe triggered a series of “Hello World!” tweets in different languages.

Dormant systems on the unmanned spacecraft were switched back on in preparation for the final stage of its decade-long mission to rendezvous with the comet named 67P/Churyumov-Gerasimenko. Systems had been powered down in 2011 to conserve energy, leaving scientists in the dark about the probe's fate until now.

Because of the time it took Rosetta to wake up, and the long distance between the spacecraft and Earth, the earliest possible hour for a signal to arrive was 6:30 p.m.

“I think it's been the longest hour of my life,” said Andrea Accomazzo, the spacecraft's operations manager at ESA's mission control room in Darmstadt, Germany. “Now we have it back.”

Scientists will now take control of Rosetta again, a procedure slowed by the 45 minutes



This undated image provided by the European Space Agency ESA shows an artist's impression of the Philae lander.

it takes a signal to travel to or from the spacecraft, he said.

The wake-up call is one of the final milestones for Rosetta before it makes its rendezvous with comet 67P in the summer. The probe will then fly a series of complicated maneuvers to observe the comet—a lump of rock and ice about four kilometers (2.5 miles) in diameter—before dropping a lander called Philae onto its icy surface in November.

The lander will dig up samples and analyze them with its instruments.

Although the spacecraft was launched almost a decade ago, the instruments aboard Rosetta and the Philae lander are still considered cutting edge, said Joel Parker of the Southwest Research Institute in Boulder, Colorado. The institute developed a specialized camera called ALICE that can detect different chemicals in the comet.

Rosetta is named after a block

of stone that allowed archeologists to decipher ancient Egyptian hieroglyphs. Scientists hope the space mission will help them understand the composition of comets and thereby discover more about the origins and evolution of our solar system.

Comets are regarded as flying time capsules because they are essentially unchanged for the last 4.6 billion years. Scientists have speculated that comets may be responsible for the water found on some planets. And like asteroids, comets also pose a theoretical threat to life on Earth.

“Over the millennia, comets have actually affected our evolution,” said Paolo Ferri, head of mission operations at the European Space Agency. “There are many theories about comets hitting the Earth and causing global catastrophes. So understanding comets is also important to see in the future what could be done to defend the Earth from comets.”

## UN rescinds invitation to Iran to attend talks

**GENEVA (AP)**—A last-minute U.N. invitation for Iran to join this week's Syria peace talks threw the long-awaited Geneva conference into doubt Monday, forcing U.N. chief Ban Ki-moon to rescind his offer under intense U.S. pressure after the opposition threatened to boycott.

With the invitation withdrawn, the main Western-backed opposition group said it would attend the talks aimed at ending Syria's ruinous three-year civil war. The opposition said the conference should seek to establish a transitional government with full executive powers “in which killers and criminals do not participate.”

The surprise invitation, extended Sunday by the U.N. secretary-general, set off a flurry of diplomatic activity to salvage the talks. The U.S. said the offer should be rescinded, and the opposition threatened to skip the event entirely.

The conference is set to begin Wednesday in the Swiss

luxury resort city of Montreux, with high-ranking delegations from the United States, Russia and close to 40 other countries attending. Face-to-face negotiations between the Syrian government and its opponents—the first of the uprising—are to start Friday in Geneva.

The uproar over Iran's invitation put the entire event at risk of being scuttled.

The Syrian National Coalition, which had voted late Saturday to attend after months of rancorous debate, issued an ultimatum, saying that Iran must commit publicly within hours to withdraw its “troops and militias” from Syria and abide by a 2012 roadmap to establish a transitional government. Otherwise, the group said, the U.N. should withdraw its invitation for Tehran to take part.

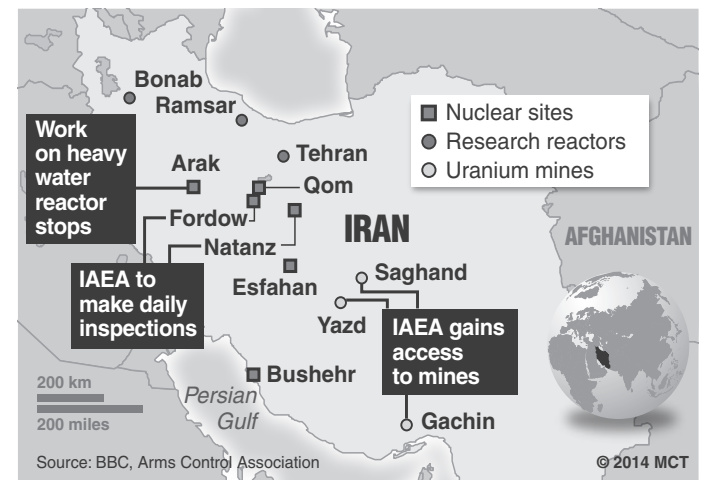
The confusion surrounding the Iranian invitation underscored the tenuous nature of the diplomatic effort to end the bloody conflict, which has

morphed from peaceful protests into a vicious civil war with outside powers backing rebels who are fighting not only the government but rival insurgents as well.

It is not clear what exactly motivated Ban to issue the invitation, but it came hours after he said he had received assurances from Tehran that it accepted the premise of the talks.

Syria has been ruled by President Bashar Assad's family since 1970, and Iran is Assad's strongest regional ally, supplying his government with advisers, money and materiel since the uprising began in 2011. The Islamic Republic's allies, most notably the Lebanese Shiite militant group Hezbollah, have also gone to Syria to help bolster Assad's forces.

The last-minute invitation appeared to take the U.S. and its European allies by surprise. An Iranian statement said Iran had accepted the offer without “any pre-conditions.”





# Focus

For too long, many nations, including my own, tolerated, even excused, oppression in the Middle East in the name of stability... We must help the reformers of the Middle East as they work for freedom, and strive to build a community of peaceful, democratic nations.

—President George W. Bush in a speech to the U.N. General Assembly, Sept. 21, 2004

**C**AIRO (AP)—Almost a quarter-century ago, a young American political scientist achieved global academic celebrity by suggesting that the collapse of communism had ended the discussion on how to run societies, leaving “Western liberal democracy as the final form of human government.”

In Egypt and around the Middle East, after a summer of violence and upheaval, the discussion, however, is still going strong. And almost three years into the Arab Spring revolts, profound uncertainties remain.

That became shatteringly clear on July 3, when Egyptian generals ousted the country’s first freely elected president, Mohammed Morsi, installing a technocratic government in the wake of massive street protests calling for the Islamist leader to step down. He had ruled incompetently for one year and badly overstepped his bounds, they argued. A crackdown on his Muslim Brotherhood has put more than 2,000 of its members in jail and left hundreds dead, and a court has ordered an outright ban on the group. Although new elections are promised, the plans are extremely vague.

All this happened with strong public support, especially among the educated classes where one might expect a strong yearning for democracy. Foreigners in Egypt were frequently stunned at how little many Egyptians cared that Morsi had been democratically elected.

How could that be? Around the region people are asking the question, and the stirrings of a rethink, subtle but persistent, are starting to be felt.

Few people—not even the absolute rulers who still cling to power in some places—would openly argue against democracy as a worthy goal. And people bristle at any suggestion that the region’s culture is somehow at odds with freedom. But with the most populous Arab nation having stumbled so badly in its first attempt, there is now an audience for those saying total democracy must grow from the ground up, needs time to evolve, and need not be the same everywhere.

“Democracy is not a matter of principle or faith for most people” in the region, said political scientist Shadi Hamid, director of research at the Brookings Doha Center. “It is something they believe in to the extent that it brings good results. ... If democracy does not bring those things, then people lose faith in the democratic process.”

“That’s part of the story in the past three years,” he said. “When push comes to shove, many say, democracy is fine in theory, but is not actually improving our lives. If the generals can promise us a greater degree of security and stability, we prefer that instead.”

Oil-rich Gulf countries, meanwhile, have largely avoided the Arab Spring as the wealthy ruling families offered what has essentially been a swap—generous handouts such as



In this Friday, Aug. 16, 2013 file photo, a trampled poster of Egypt’s ousted President Mohammed Morsi is seen on the ground outside the Rabaah al-Adawiya mosque, where supporters of Morsi had a protest camp in Nasr City, Cairo, Egypt.

## Arab world searches for a DEMOCRATIC FUTURE

state jobs and discount-rate housing in exchange for political passivity. The exception is Bahrain, where an uprising has been led by majority Shiites seeking greater rights in the Sunni-ruled kingdom, which is home to the U.S. Navy’s 5th Fleet.

Hamid, for example, is based in the Gulf state of Qatar, where no one expects democracy anytime soon. That’s more or less the situation in the entire Arabian Peninsula and Persian Gulf area, where emirs and monarchs are for the most part firmly in charge. The same goes for Jordan, where officials offer learned explanations about democratic reforms that do not extend to relieving King Abdullah II of his executive power anytime soon.

“Most of the Arab rulers are trying very hard to give the impression to the West that their peoples are not prepared for democracy because these rulers are afraid that they are going to lose in any fair democratic elections,” said Adel al-Baldawi, a history professor at Mustansiriyah University in Baghdad.

The region’s experiment with democracy in recent years actually precedes the Arab Spring. The Palestinians, under the framework of their interim accords with Israel, held a number of parliamentary and presidential elections beginning in the late 1990s. Iraq has had several democratic elections since the 2003 U.S.-led invasion that ousted Saddam Hussein—part of

then-U.S. President George W. Bush’s vision for democratizing the region.

Few in the region today seem willing to credit that “Bush Doctrine” in the least with the Arab Spring that erupted in December 2010. More often cited are the explosion of satellite TV news stations, social media and mounting anger at decades of authoritarian rule. In swift succession governments fell in Tunisia and Egypt. Libya’s dictator, Moammar Gadhafi, was toppled—and killed by a mob—in a civil war. All three countries have tried to set up democracies, with elected governments.

The results offer some cautionary tales. Sectarianism and tribalism often override political debate—such as in Iraq, where Kurds, Sunnis and Shiites generally vote for their own parties. The violence-wracked country has ended up plagued by partisanship and political gridlock, its leader Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki accused by many of having authoritarian tendencies.

Existing parties in Jordan are even more granular, with some representing tribes. Critics say a healthy democracy needs a contest of ideas instead.

Another challenge is the level of education in some countries. All over the world voters face a challenge in grasping the increasingly complex issues of the day—but the problem is on a different scale in a place like Egypt, where about a third of the almost 90 million

people are illiterate.

That provided a major opening to Islamists led by the Muslim Brotherhood, which successfully convinced many in Egypt’s impoverished rural population that a vote for them was a vote for Islam. Critics saw an irony: Islamists, they argued, were great at using democracy for the ultimate goal of theocracy, non-democratic to the core.

In the Palestinian areas elections have been delayed for years and a split has set in between the West Bank’s autonomy zones, run by an elected Mahmoud Abbas whose mandate has long expired, and the Gaza Strip, which was seized by the Islamic fundamentalists of Hamas, who make no democratic pretense today, although they did win parliamentary elections in 2006.

“Our Arab societies largely lack a democratic culture,” said Majed Sweilem, a political scientist in the West Bank. “The democratic movements are weak and can’t get to power. The only ones that can get to power are the undemocratic forces that don’t believe in real democracy.”

Once in power, they can rule more or less at will, elections having lent legitimacy to an executive unencumbered by the basic infrastructure of democracy—the institutions, checks and balances that prevent a tyranny of the majority. That prospect terrified the elites in Egypt, where people are less traditional and many feared their life-

style was under clerical attack.

Mohammed Magdy, a 27-year-old Egyptian, said the path to democracy would be long.

“The ballot box is one of the means of democracy . but (it is) not everything. At a time when there is popular action, it is not the strongest tool for change, because there are other ways,” he said—such as protests and public monitoring of officials.

There have been some calls for denying illiterate people the right to vote, although they have not gained traction.

In Syria, of course, an Arab Spring-like revolt has morphed into a civil war whose rebel side is sufficiently dominated by Islamic extremists that it has been unable to muster effective Western support against authoritarian President Bashar Assad, despite more than 100,000 people killed.

In the Arabian peninsula and the Persian Gulf, rulers seem determined to maintain things as they are. Most countries have taken only small steps to take politics beyond the ruling clans.

“If the Gulf leaders needed anything to justify their crackdowns on political dissent, they have a perfect self-justification in the chaos in Egypt and other countries hit by the Arab Spring,” said Christopher Davidson, an expert in Gulf affairs at Britain’s Durham University.

Fawaz A. Gerges, director of the Middle East Center at the London School of Economics, said that “unlike eastern Europe in the 1980s and 1990s,” which clearly wanted to emulate the West, “the Arab world does not know where it wants to go.”

Gerges warned against assuming “that this transition will lead to Western-type democracy.”

Perhaps religion will play a formal role in some places. Perhaps monarchs will retain a hand in the executive. Perhaps certain ethnic groups will have positions reserved for them, as is the case in Lebanon, where the president is a Christian and the prime minister a Sunni Muslim.

Francis Fukuyama—the political scientist who wrote “The End of History?” in 1989—said he still believes democracy is the direction of things. But subsequent events have shown that the road is long, and cultural differences may apply.

“Democracy in Asia ... doesn’t look like European democracy—there are going to be variants all around the world,” the Stanford University fellow said in an interview. “I think people’s expectations are too high for how quickly you can make a transition. The experiments we’ve seen (in the Middle East) have not worked very well, but they’re also very real and these institutions just take a long time to evolve. Nationalism derailed democracy in the 20th century in Europe, (and) religion is playing a similar role in the Arab world right now.”

“All of these places are going to look different, but they face a common set of challenges and there is a common evolutionary path.”



# Campus Life

## Palau Community College reopens STEP-UP laboratory

Palau Community College recently opened a laboratory for the Palau STEP-UP Program. A ceremony was held on Jan. 8, 2014, to commemorate the new facility. Present at the ceremony were Pacific STEP-UP Program director George Hui, Pacific STEP-UP Program coordinator Danielle Clements, PCC director of Development & Palau STEP-UP program coordinator Tchuzie Tadao, NIDDK director of the Office of Minority Health Research Coordination Dr. Lawrence Agodoa and his wife.

Also present at the ceremony were Guam STEP-UP program coordinator Kristina L.C. Torres and U.S. Embassy charge d'affaires Thomas P. Daley. PCC vice president of Admissions & Finance Jay Olegeriil, Dean of Academic Affairs Robert Ramarui, and Dean of Students Sherman Daniel were also present. PCC student trustee Dizzette U. Dolmers was the mistress of ceremony during the event.

Principals from Palau High School, Belau Modekngai High School, and Emmaus High

School as well as PCC student Masami N. Andreas were invited to the ceremony. Andreas participated in the STEP-UP Program last summer along with Lindon M. Kohama. The two STEP-UP participants conducted researches over the summer on diabetes and alternate foods. Andreas and Kohama were given the opportunity to present the results of their researches in Maryland in August.

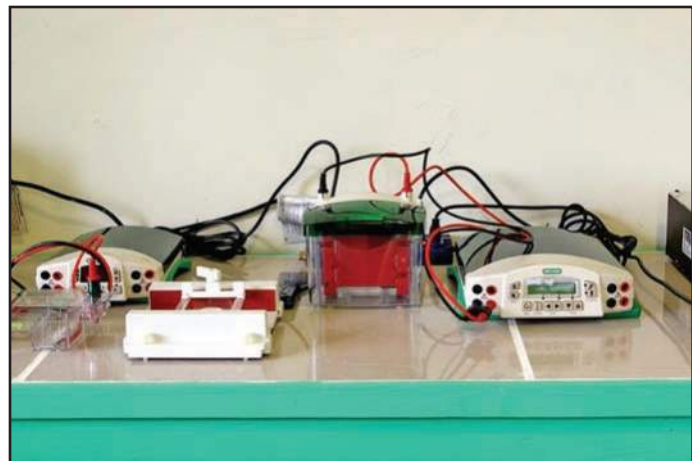
The Pacific STEP-UP Program is a component of the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) Short-Term Research Experience for Underrepresented Persons (STEP-UP) Program. The program extends to the islands of Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Republic of Palau, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Federated States of Micronesia.

NIDDK formed the STEP-UP Program as a means of encouraging research on health issues plaguing communities of underrepresented racial or ethnic groups, particularly research conducted by members of the underrepresented communities. By introducing the research process to students, the program hopes to inspire generations of researchers in these areas of the world.

Students participating in the STEP-UP Program are given the opportunity to conduct research under the guidance of experienced researchers/mentors at their local participating institutions. The research internship spans eight weeks over the summer months. Each participant receives a participation allowance and may be eligible to travel to Washington, D.C. to present their summer research at the National NIDDK STEP-UP Scientific Symposium held each year in August.

Students interested in the STEP-UP Program must be a third-year (junior) or fourth-year (senior) high school student at the time of application. S/he must also meet one of the following criteria: an underrepresented racial or ethnic group in biomedical research described by the National Science Foundation; disadvantaged as defined by annual family income; first generation in the family to attend college; or diagnosed with a disability limiting one or more major life activities.

Students interested in the Pacific STEP-UP Program may apply or learn more about it at the website: <https://stepup.nidk.nih.gov/hs.aspx>. (PCC)



### *In Celebration of Her New Life in Paradise*

## † Angelica Manglona Ogo

*Affectionately known as "Mama Angie"*

### *In Her New Life She Now Joins Her:*

**Husband:** †Misael Hocog Ogo

**Daughter:** †Betty Jane Manglona Ogo

**Parents:** †Asuncion H. Maratita,  
†Crispin M. Manglona, &  
†Romano M. Maratita

**Grand Mothers:** †Ana Manglona, †Maria S. Hocog

**Grand Fathers:** †Jose Manglona, †Eugenio P. Hocog

**Parents-in-Law:** †Sebastian Ogo, †Joaquin Borja & †Rosa H. Borja

**Brothers, Sisters:** †Raimundo H. Manglona, †Beato T. Manglona, †Magdalena M. Inos,  
†Candido H. Maratita, †Clara M. Valdez

**Sister-in-laws:** †Isabel S. Manglona, †Maria H. Borja & †Remedio Borja

**Nephew:** †Aaron M. Suzuki

**Grand Daughter:** †Tafari Angelica S. Ogo

### *Her memories will forever live in the hearts of her:*

**Children:** Michael M. & Daisy R. Ogo (Leslie, Mitchell, Monet); **Crispin M.** & Hera S. Ogo

(Sierra M. Valdez, Jovaney Subediang, Jonathan You); **Eugene M.** Ogo & Marylou B.

Quitugua (Beverly, Kaylah, Noah Cole, Eugene Jr., Aaron Sebastian); **Sarah Ann M. Ogo** &

Michael B. Manglona (Misael Keoni, Michael Jr., Christopher, Tiana Hope)

**Reared Child:** Peter J.C. Mesngon/Magdalena M. Cepeda (Joe)

**Brothers, Sisters & In-Laws:** **Guadalupe P.** Manglona (Raymond Castro, Modesta Lizama, Ross Hugh S. Manglona, Lorenza Itibus, Roddy Howell S. Manglona); **Carmelita I.** Manglona (Michelle M. Quichocho, Wena I. Manglona, and Chris I. Manglona); (Christine/Rodney Mendiola, Leilani/Jarrod Manglona, Candilyn); **Bonabe H.** & Imee E. Maratita (Rovien Bo, Bryce Allen, Romano Vin); **Carmen M.** & Akilino Suzuki (Rae/Franklin: Aaron Cole); Richard H. & Carmen C. Maratita (Roman John, Richard Jr.); **Delfina M.** & Edward C. Barcinas (Lucretia/Carlos Talamantes, Edward C. Jr., Edmund John); **Jesus H.** & Cora Hocog, Ignacio H. & Rose Borja, & Candido H. Borja

**Mama Angie is additionally survived by numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews and Godchildren.**

Nightly rosary is being said at Kristo Rai Church in Saipan at 7:00 p.m. until Friday, January 24th, 2014

On Saturday, January 25th, her body will be flown to Rota in the morning. Viewing prior to the flight to Rota will start at 7:30 a.m. at the CHCC Chapel. Rosary is concurrently being said at San Francisco De Borja Church in Rota at 7:00 p.m.

On Monday, January 27, 2014, Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 9:00 a.m. at the San Francisco De Borja Church followed by Interment Service at the San Jose Cemetery in Songsong Village where we will bid our beloved †Mama Angie to an eternal rest in Paradise.

**Un Dangkulu Na Si Yu'us Ma'ase**

**Ginen I Familia**



## Life &amp; Style

## Branagh: From Shakespeare to 'Shadow Recruit'

**BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)**—Kenneth Branagh's role as a director began with the story of a valiant king.

Leading the 1989 film version of Shakespeare's "Henry V" both in front of and behind the camera, Branagh went on to make five more Shakespeare adaptations. Turning plays into movies became his thing.

That was until his agent suggested he direct the 2011 blockbuster "Thor."

Moving from royalty to mythology, the hammer-wielding god was Branagh's first foray into Hollywood's big-budget domain. The success of "Thor," which earned nearly \$450 million worldwide, led to Branagh directing "Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit," the latest film version of author Tom Clancy's celebrated CIA series.

"'Thor' was a risk for Marvel," recalls Branagh, sitting poolside on the roof of a Beverly Hills hotel. "Who knew that I could make a good job of it? I was out of my comfort zone. I was scared. Those movies have this whole other dimension to them like merchandizing and the cult following. But I needed to continue to feel like I had an

audience."

Between 2005 and 2007, Branagh directed film adaptations of "As You Like It," "The Magic Flute" and "Sleuth." "And really nobody saw them," laments the 53-year-old. "It was frustrating. I'd put as much passion and commitment into those movies as any other. But I felt it would be nice to make films that people actually watched."

"Thor" fulfilled that desire.

"The reason he does so well with these big-budget, explosive action-pictures is that he comes from theater and Shakespeare and high, rich drama," says Chris Pine, who takes on the role of Jack Ryan in the new film. "He brings all of that plot-centric thinking to bare."

But Branagh's love affair with big-budget films doesn't mean he's given up working on epic dramas.

"Shakespeare and great myths never end and in a strange way there is also a classical element to Jack Ryan, since he's this paradox of this everyman who is brilliant," says Branagh. "Mak-



In this Friday, Jan. 10, 2014 file photo, director and actor Kenneth Branagh poses for a portrait to promote "Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit," in Beverly Hills, Calif.

ing a film is usually a two-year cycle, so you need material that gives and gives. My transition isn't so much about seeking the Hollywood franchise as it was going to those stories and finding Hollywood was as well."

With the plot shifting to a modern-day Russian-American rift from Clancy's usual focus on the Cold War, "Shadow Recruit" is not based on any specific book by the renowned author. Still, says Branagh, "Coming from theater, my background has always been to honor the writer. It's all about 'what does the writer intend?' There is a built-in respect for Mr. Clancy. But as far as I understood it, his blessing for this project was at arm's length. My impression is that he felt a bit burned by Hollywood."

Clancy, who died last October, complained about the lack of creative control of the movie versions of his books. He's known for saying: "Giving your book to Hollywood is like turning your daughter over to a pimp." He was displeased with Harrison Ford playing Jack Ryan in the film adaptations of "Patriot Games" and "Clear and Present Danger" because he felt he was too old.

Conversely, Branagh said Clancy thought the 33-year-old

Pine was "great casting" for the latest film. "He's a pretty boy, sexy man," says Branagh of Pine. "And his acting is always interesting."

A rare talent who's received Academy Award nominations for acting, directing and writing, Branagh certainly has industry pull. Kevin Costner agreed to star as Jack Ryan's CIA mentor in "Shadow Recruit" simply because Branagh asked him.

Himself a director, Costner's experience was a "great help" when making the film, says Branagh. To keep the thriller nervy, Costner encouraged Branagh to limit rehearsals, "so people remained on their toes," adds Branagh.

Directed by Branagh for the first time, Costner says he "admired how he worked the floor. I don't know that either of us are really afraid of anything. I respect how he has constructed his career. You don't just go from doing Shakespeare to doing blockbusters."

But the knighted Briton, who's appeared in over 30 films and stars as the villain in "Shadow Recruit," would never brag about his career. In fact, he still gets giddy when he sees his name in lights.

## Lindsay Lohan at Sundance to announce new film

**PARK CITY, Utah (AP)**—With a film crew capturing every moment, Lindsay Lohan made a high-profile debut at the Sundance Film Festival, announcing a new film and a "fresh start."

The 27-year-old, who is attempting a comeback after well-documented battles with drugs and legal troubles, came to the independent cinema showcase Monday to say she will produce and star in a film called "Inconceivable," set to start shooting in March.

A crew from OWN, which is airing a reality series about Lohan, filmed the actress's news conference. Reporters were told that if they asked personal ques-

tions, they would be escorted out.

Most performers and producers at Sundance have films showing at the festival and don't come just to announce a planned production—those are usually announced through news releases. But producer and financier Randall Emmett, who sat beside Lohan, said Sundance is "just a special place for us to announce this film." He called Lohan "one of the greatest young actresses of her generation."

Lohan, who emerged from her latest rehab stint last year and remains on probation for a

necklace theft and for lying to police about a car crash, said she is grateful to be at Sundance and back in the movie business.

"I've never had the honor of coming here before ... to bring something to the table, which is starting fresh for me," said Lohan, smiling broadly. "And I'm filming my Oprah docu-series right now, so I get to that to the people who have been watching that as well."

"It's a nice change to be back among people that are in the industry that I've been in since I was a kid."

She described the film as a psy-

chological thriller about a woman trying to reclaim something she lost, adding that she "related to the character in a lot of ways."

Emmett said Lohan found the script and insisted they make it together.

"She read the script, she called, she said, 'We're making this movie, are you in or out?'" he recalled. "I said, 'I'm in.'"

Lohan will also help select the director and cast the film, he said, adding that he expects a director to be announced next week.

Emmett said moviegoers "are going to really be shocked when they see Lindsay take this role on." Lionsgate will release the film, he said.



Lohan

## Anne Hathaway dismisses report of near drowning

**PARK CITY, Utah (AP)**—Don't worry, Anne Hathaway is OK.

Recently paparazzi photos circulated of the Oscar-winner on vacation in Hawaii with her husband and looking like she was having an emergency while in the ocean. Reports stated she had gotten caught in a rip tide, was injured and had to be rescued.

While attending the Sundance premiere of her movie "Song One," Hathaway said: "I'm fine. ... I really do appreciate everybody's concern but that was a picture that had a false story attached to it. The real story is not as interesting."

She also joked to a reporter that someone told her to say



Cast member Anne Hathaway poses at the premiere of the film "Song One" during the 2014 Sundance Film Festival, on Monday, Jan. 20, 2014, in Park City, Utah.

she was playing Charades and "pulled Titanic."

"Song One" stars Hathaway as a woman estranged from her

family but returns home when her brother is in a serious accident. While she deals with her emotions as her brother is in a coma, she explores the Brooklyn music scene.

Hathaway does sing in the film and says it was far less pressure than when she had to sing "I Dreamed a Dream" for "Les Misérables."

"It wasn't as much pressure because my character is not a singer, a musician anything, so there is no pressure to, I don't know—to please the fans of the music I guess," she said.

"Song One" is directed by Katie Barker-Froyland and also stars Ben Rosenfeld, Johnny Flynn and Mary Steenburgen.

## De Niro honors late father with documentary

**PARK CITY, Utah (AP)**—Creativity runs in the De Niro family.

Robert De Niro's father, Robert De Niro Sr., was an abstract expressionist painter, part of the post-WWII art scene, which produced such talent as Jackson Pollock. He was even endorsed by the famed art collector and socialite, Peggy Guggenheim. But while he was successful when he started out in the 1940s and '50s, De Niro Sr.'s work went out of style as pop art became the trend in the '60s.

He died in 1993 at 71, but his story is now being told by his Oscar-winning son. De Niro has made a documentary about his father called "Remembering the Artist Robert De Niro Sr.," which premiered at Sundance Film Festival and will air on HBO in June. He also put some of his father's work on display at the Julie Nestor Gallery in Park City.

While attending a reception at the gallery on Sunday, De Niro said the intention was to make the documentary for his family.

"(I) wanted to make a documentary about my father with footage, whatever footage we had; people, whoever was around that were still with us, (I) wanted to have them interviewed and talk about him and have it for the family, for my kids, the grandkids," he said. "And then it went this way that HBO picked it up which is re-

ally great."

When asked what he thought his father would think of the film about him, De Niro joked that he would probably be uncomfortable by the attention.

"He would be flattered on the one hand and say, 'Well, I don't know, that's not accurate' or this or that," he said.

De Niro says he tried to feature his father's art in his own work, like at his restaurant the Tribeca Grill in New York.

"I asked him if he would let me hang some of his paintings there and I thought for sure he's not gonna, not gonna like that, but he actually went along with it. He hung them himself, especially the three big paintings in the back of the grill and I was told he'd bring friends from time to time like once a week or every 10 days or so to have dinners there," De Niro said. "And then I asked him if he'd do the menu and he did the menu, which is still there. ... It will be there as long as the place exists."

De Niro is in town for the 30th anniversary of the Sundance Film Festival. The actor said he hopes his own film festival, the Tribeca Film Festival, which he co-founded with producing partner Jane Rosenthal after Sept. 11, will be just as successful. This year marks its 13th anniversary.

"I hope we do as well as Sundance in 30 years, on our 30th anniversary."



# Mary Lambert was 'last resort' for 'Same Love'

**NEW YORK (AP)**—In just six hours, Mary Lambert's life changed drastically.

Macklemore & Ryan Lewis had written and produced a song called "Same Love," but they needed a special hook to finalize the emotional track. Like the rap duo, Lambert is from Seattle, though she had never met them before.

"I was sort of a last resort," said Lambert. "It was a match made in heaven."

Lambert was given "about two or three hours" to write the song's chorus and then record it the same night in front of the breakthrough newcomers, who were instantly impressed by the soft singer.

"They loved it. It was like this beautiful minute of silence after I sung the chorus," she recalled.

Others love it, too—including members of the Recording Academy. "Same Love" is nominated for the coveted song of the year at Sunday's Grammy Awards, pitting the rap song supporting gay love and acceptance against No. 1 smashes from Katy Perry, Bruno Mars, Lorde and Pink.

"Same Love" didn't top the



In this Aug. 25, 2013 file photo, Mary Lambert, left, Macklemore, center, and Ryan Lewis accept the award for best video with a social message for "Same Love" at the MTV Video Music Awards, at the Barclays Center, in the Brooklyn borough of New York.

## 'Sleepy Hollow' star teases finale 'revelations'

**NEW YORK (AP)**—British actor Tom Mison, who plays Ichabod Crane on the Fox series "Sleepy Hollow," predicts fans are in for a sleepless night.

Mison said in a recent interview that in the two-hour Season 1 finale, airing Monday at 8 p.m. EST, "There will be so many revelations and so many shocks that you'll want to stay up and scream at a wall and probably hit your head against a wall and so many surprises that you're gonna kick yourself that you didn't see some of these coming."

It might sound dramatic, but the actor said he believes the fans will be surprised because of clues they likely missed along the way.

"The seeds have been sown throughout the season, clues as

to what's coming, and as far as I know nobody's really guessed anything," Mison said.

"Sleepy Hollow" is described as a retelling of the Washington Irving short story but set in the



**Mison**

modern day. Ichabod has a woken two centuries after being killed in the Revolutionary War. He must adjust to this new time period, battle the headless horseman and prevent the looming apocalypse.

"There's nothing else like it really," Mison said. "If you're a fan of procedurals then you'll like it. If you're a fan of horror

then you'll like it."

Plus it's funny, especially as Ichabod tries to get comfortable in the 21st century. One especially humorous scene features him pouring his heart out to the OnStar voice in a car.

The cast and crew are on hiatus before Season 2 begins filming, and Mison said he can't wait to return to work.

"After a very, very strenuous hardworking season it's so nice that I haven't left it thinking, 'I need to go and lie down,'" he said. "Instead it's that I can't wait to find out what's going to happen."

"Sleepy Hollow" is the 31-year-old actor's first job in America. His work on the show has received praise from critics and put him on various 2013 lists of rising stars and actors to watch.

would have to include Hall.

"Masuka! I would watch that," he joked, referring to the show's humorous forensics specialist Vince Masuka, played by C.S. Lee.

More seriously, Hall said of a possible spin-off series, "I can't even wrap my mind around that. And it's all just theoretical until there is some sort of script reflecting somebody's idea of where it could possibly go. But

it's hard for me to imagine what that would be."

Hall, 42, also won't rule out returning TV more generally.

"Yeah, as far as playing Dexter again for an undefined amount of time, that's a little daunting to consider. But doing another television series - there's a lot of amazing stuff on TV. I don't want to do that right away. But I wouldn't say never to that."

## Unrest in Thailand cancels Frankie Valli concert

**BANGKOK (AP)**—Sixties doo-wop singer Frankie Valli has canceled a concert in Bangkok this week because of Thailand's political unrest, the event's promoter announced Monday.

Promoter BEC-Tero Entertainment PCL said Wednesday's performance was being scrapped "Due to the current political situation and its associated difficulties, and for the safety and well-being of customers."

The concert, billed as Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons, was to be held near one of several sites where protesters have been demanding the resignation of Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra. Violence has marred some of the protests, leading to nine deaths since November. Two explosions wounded 28 people in Bangkok on Sunday.

"I am truly disappointed that I

can't perform for my fans in Thailand on Jan. 22. But your safety and security are more important and really matter to me. My thoughts are with you all. I promise I will come back to perform in Thailand soon," the announcement quoted Valli saying.

The promoter said concerts by other visiting artists, including Avril Lavigne in February and Eric Clapton and Bruno Mars in March, are still planned.

charts—it peaked at No. 11 on the Hot 100—but it sold 2 million copies and helped propel Macklemore & Ryan Lewis to even greater heights. The duo is nominated for seven awards, including best new artist and album of the year for "The Heist."

"We'd probably all agree that the nomination for song of the year for 'Same Love' in particular is quite meaningful for us, in what the song has turned out to be and (what it) means to people," said Zach Quillen, manager for Macklemore & Ryan Lewis.

"We regard it as our highest accomplishment," he said.

The Grammys also will celebrate another song about gay pride Sunday with Sara Bareilles' "Brave," which she wrote to encourage her friend to come out of the closet. It's nominated for best pop solo performance and appears on her third album, "The Blessed Unrest," which is up for album of the year.

Keith Caulfield, Billboard's associate director of charts, said "Brave" could be getting a boost because of its Grammy nominations.

## Sting and Paul Simon rehearsing for upcoming tour

**PASADENA, Calif. (AP)**—Sting and Paul Simon are rehearsing for their upcoming tour, a couple of longtime friends and neighbors preparing to take turns singing some of each other's biggest hits.

It was Simon's idea for the tour, hatched when he came downstairs in their New York apartment building to ask if Sting would be interested. Of course, Sting told him, having first heard Simon & Garfunkel when he was a 15-year-old in England.

"He's the master," Sting said Monday by satellite from New York. "If I ever wanted to emulate a literary and literate songwriter, then Paul Simon would be the person I would go to."

They have started the process of selecting the set list for the tour, which opens Feb. 8 in Houston. Sting said Simon has asked him to sing "Bridge Over Troubled Water," and Sting asked if they could include "America."

"Paul had a long partnership with Art Garfunkel for many, many years, and it's not my job to impersonate Art," Sting said. "He has one of the most iconic, beautiful voices in the history of rock 'n' roll. But my job is to interpret and honor the notes and the lyrics that have been written, and I will be me. But I'm delighted to sing songs from that canon."

Simon is eager to sing Sting's songs "Fields of Gold" and "Fragile."

"I think the gentler side of my repertoire interests him," Sting told the Television Critics Association while promoting his PBS special, "Sting: The Last Ship," airing Feb. 21 on "Great Performances."

## Man who doesn't want marriage keeps attracting women who do

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



*Dear Abby*

**DEAR ABBY:** I am a 53-year-old male who is fit, healthy and has a good job. I also have two failed marriages behind me, which have cost me dearly, both emotionally and financially. I have no intention of making that mistake again! I have been on my own for five years, and in that time I have had five relationships—always with women my age (give or take a few years).

My problem is that women my age seem to have only one agenda: marriage. One very nice lady finally clarified her feelings by saying that at this time in her life, she didn't have time for "just dating" because in a few years she'd be 60.

I understand her dilemma, but I'm not interested in younger women. I try hard to make it clear at the beginning of any relationship that marriage is out of the question, and I don't proceed with the relationship unless the lady wholeheartedly agrees. But somehow I have broken five good hearts, whose only transgression was falling in love with me.

**NOBODY'S RETIREMENT HUSBAND**

**DEAR N.R.H.:** I admire your self-image. You must be doing something right to have the ladies lining up the way they are. However, you may not be as effective a communicator as you think you are if five different women failed to get the message you said you convey. I have several thoughts about your predicament:

If your only fear of marriage is that you would again be cleaned out financially, a strong prenuptial agreement could help you avoid any problem if a third marriage didn't work. However, if variety is what you prefer, then you should restate your message every few months as these relationships blossom. (Or you could move to a monastery and stop dangling yourself in the dating pool.)

■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** Once a year I type my ZIP code into a website to see who the registered sex offenders are in my area so I can be better informed and protect myself and my family. A photo, address and the charges attributed to the offender are posted on the site. My jaw dropped to the floor when I saw a man listed that I work with and see quite often. The picture looked recent.

I haven't said anything to him. I have known this person for five years and thought he was a good guy who respected women. I'd like to think it was a one-time mistake and that he would never do it again. But would he?

Should I tell my teenage daughter who sometimes visits me in the office? Should I tell the other women who work here? If a co-worker knew this kind of information and showed it to me, I'd be grateful to know. What do you think I should do?

**STUNNED IN THE CITY**

**DEAR STUNNED:** Tell your daughter to keep her distance from this co-worker. But before you drop this bombshell at the office, you should first discuss what you have learned with your employer.

■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** I hope you can help with this etiquette question. My son and his wife believe that when you finish a good meal, you toss your napkin on the now-empty plate. They say this sends a message that the food was great.

I do not agree. Is placing a grubby napkin on the plate inappropriate behavior or is this legit?

**NOT A NAPKIN-TOSSING DAD**

**DEAR DAD:** Your son and his wife need to re-read the chapter on table manners in their etiquette book. When a meal is finished and the plate is empty, diners should place their used napkins on the table **BESIDE** their dessert plate. It should not be placed on top of a dirty plate.

**P.S.** If they don't own an etiquette book, it appears they could use one.

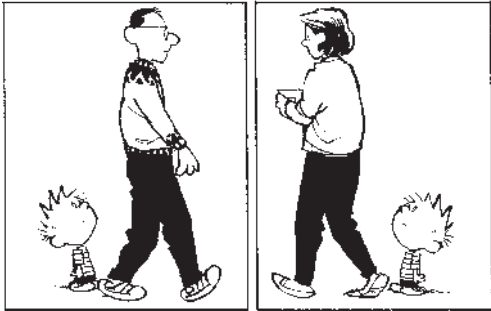
*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

*For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)*



# Pastimes

## Calvin and Hobbes



By Bill Waterson



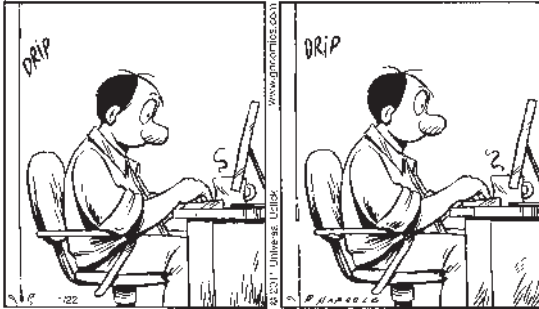
## Garfield®

By Jim Davis



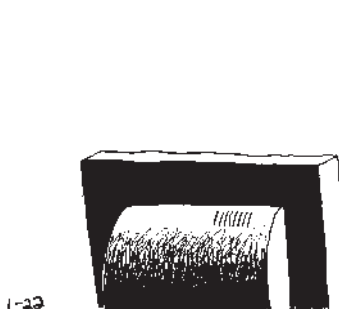
## Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



## The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



## CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- Last write-up
  - Corral
  - On the briny
  - Approximately
  - Expert
  - Ginger cookie
  - "I've Been Everywhere" singer
  - Ripped
  - Am-bushed
  - Threatening looks
  - Bigfoot's cousin
  - Sphere
  - Chicago team
  - City on the Irish
  - TV alien
  - Can.-Mex. connector
  - Marble type
  - Spike or Bruce
  - Slithery fish
  - Totally smitten
  - Huff and puff
- DOWN**
- Caustic solution
  - Dunkable treat
  - Permeate (with)
  - Ballroom dance
  - Leeway
  - Lucky type of cat
  - Egg
  - Male cat
  - Sicilian spouter
  - a soul (nobody)
  - Masseur's workplace
  - Burn somewhat
  - Highland hillside
  - It
  - Romantic?
  - Hungarian
  - Wines
  - Sillet
  - Environmentally friendly
  - 11 o'clock telecast
  - "Maltese Falcon" actress
  - Mary
  - Grow uncontrollably
  - Count counter-part
  - Tarzan's posse
  - Sault — Marie
  - Pepsi alternative
  - Frat party garb
  - Adult insect
  - Poolroom need
  - Exploit
  - Jim Bouton book
  - Celebrity
  - Zodiac feline
  - Not many stats
  - Census
  - Old Greek legislatures
  - Delicious
  - Blunder
  - Press
  - PBS science show
  - Small salamanders
  - Apportion (out)
  - Eric of "Hulk"
  - In the distance
  - "Alley —"
  - Ms. Thurman

Solution time: 21 mins.

Yesterdays answer 1-22

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Balthazar Getty, 39; Guy Fieri, 46; Diane Lane, 49; John Hurt, 74.

**Happy Birthday:** Jump into action and take a leap of faith. Take the skills you have acquired this past year and turn them into something that will help you aspire to new heights. Strive to reclaim love, companionship and diversity. Reconnect with old friends and make life changes that will inspire you to live, love and laugh. Your numbers are 2, 8, 12, 20, 24, 37, 41.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** What you do to help a cause will raise questions. Take care of personal responsibilities before offering your services to outsiders. A relationship will take an emotional turn. Speak up and air your concerns, but don't make an impulsive move. ★★★

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Opportunities are present, but you may misunderstand what's expected of you. Do not make a commitment. You are better off learning all you can and developing a plan that will enable you to handle whatever situation you face with ease. ★★★

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Put your best foot forward. Ask questions and take on new projects. What you offer will be greatly appreciated. A change will occur in the way you move forward with your plans if you lend someone a helping hand. ★★★★★

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Emotional matters will lead to arguments if you aren't careful about how you deal with others. Take a deep breath and get involved in

something you enjoy doing. Avoiding sticky situations will give you time to think matters through and regroup. ★★

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Get moving. The more mobile you are, the happier you'll be. Taking on domestic tasks will help improve your surroundings, comfort and attitude. A partnership looks good and details regarding how to move forward can be made. ★★★★★

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Before making a decision, listen to what's being offered. An impulsive move will turn out to be costly. Love is in the stars and romance will set the mood. Children will play a role in a decision you make. ★★★

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Don't overdo it at home. Too much to eat or drink will result in physical or emotional problems. You are better off going to a destination that makes you feel relaxed, or spending time with someone who brings you comfort and joy. ★★★

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Get together with someone who brings out the best in you. New ideas will result in changes that will encourage you to live better. Ease stress by addressing emotional issues. Take care of personal business and move on. ★★★

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Getting together with a colleague you used to work with will spark ideas that can lead to new opportunities. Share your insight and experience and you will change the way people view you. A change at home will bring you emotional satisfaction. ★★★★★

## SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

	5	8	3	9	2	7	4		
	6						2		
		4	1	6	5	8			
	3						9		
8					9			3	
4				8		6		1	
5					8			7	
	1							8	
		7	9	1	4	5			

Difficulty Level ★★★

1/22

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterdays SUDOKU Answer

9	3	4	1	7	8	6	5	2
1	2	5	6	9	4	8	7	3
6	8	7	5	2	3	4	9	1
5	9	8	7	6	1	3	2	4
2	7	6	4	3	9	5	1	8
3	4	1	8	5	2	9	6	7
7	5	3	2	4	6	1	8	9
8	6	9	3	1	7	2	4	5
4	1	2	9	8	5	7	3	6

Difficulty Level ★★

1/22

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Expect to face some opposition along the way. It may annoy you, but showing anger will not fix what's wrong. Back away until you have a better idea on how you want to handle this situation. Focus on love and romance. ★★



**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Go over your personal papers and look at your financial situation. An old idea used in an updated and diverse manner will help you bring in extra cash. Use past experience and physical endurance and you will excel. ★★★★★



**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Get out and mingle, offer assistance and go where the action is. There are deals to be formulated and money to be made. Don't let a change in partnerships slow you down. Opportunity doesn't linger. Make your move and don't look back. ★★★



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## WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

EGBERT OF WESSEX

Solution: 11 letters

A	H	B	R	T	S	R	I	F	R	E	W	O	P	R
T	T	A	I	C	H	D	R	Y	Z	I	A	A	T	E
N	H	T	V	R	A	A	R	I	D	Y	P	N	E	L
I	G	T	A	E	N	A	E	E	T	A	E	O	X	U
M	I	L	L	C	T	S	Y	N	C	K	C	I	P	R
N	E	E	I	I	K	R	G	Y	F	O	E	S	E	A
O	K	A	L	L	U	I	K	O	N	S	L	S	D	V
D	E	I	A	T	E	I	D	Q	G	E	A	E	I	A
N	M	N	R	N	N	U	N	N	L	M	C	T	G	
O	D	E	E	G	U	E	I	O	P	E	T	C	I	E
L	C	V	D	M	S	K	R	E	R	O	M	A	O	D
Y	O	C	L	T	I	H	C	R	U	H	C	N	A	
S	M	R	I	V	T	E	I	Y	X	E	S	S	E	G
S	A	R	D	N	A	S	P	O	O	R	T	I	E	
E	D	W	A	R	D	T	H	E	E	L	D	E	R	B

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1/22

Accession, Army, Attack, Battle, Bishop, Century, Church, Coin, Conquest, Earl, Edmund of Kent, Edward the Elder, Eighth, Enemies, Essex, Expedition, First, Francia, Kingdoms, Kingship, Land, Lead, London Mint, Lord, Male, Mercia, Military, Papacy, Power, Ravaged, Rival, Ruler, Seize, Sovereignty, Throne, Troops, Victory, Vikings, Wide

Yesterday's Answer: Nicholson

Treasury 12, 13, 14 or 15 can be purchased online at [wonderword.universaljclick.com](http://wonderword.universaljclick.com). (Contain 130 puzzles.)

## STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

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- Two (2) Housekeepers – a hard work ethic is a must with less supervision that can carry the work load and to accomplish it by the end of the shift. Be able to lift 30 lbs box, good attendance and reliable are a must. Must show work experience from previous employer.
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# Pacers win 5th straight, hold off Warriors, 102-94



**OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)**—When Paul George played at Golden State last season, he missed all seven shots he took and finished scoreless in Indiana's loss. Instead of sulking, he went straight to the gym after the Pacers arrived back home in the wee hours of the morning.

That work ethic has paid off. George scored 23 points to go with four rebounds and two assists, and the NBA-leading Pacers built a big lead before holding off the Warriors 102-94 Monday night for their fifth straight win.

"That game changed everything, for our franchise and for him," Pacers coach Frank Vogel said, recalling the 103-92 loss at Golden State on Dec. 1, 2012. "It forced him to change his approach."

George has emerged as an MVP candidate this season, and his Indiana teammates are improving just as rapidly.

The Pacers (33-7) went ahead by 20 in the third quarter, watched the Warriors whittle the lead to two and then regrouped in the closing minutes to open the five-game West Coast trip with a victory.

Roy Hibbert had 14 points and 13 rebounds, David West added 17 points and Lance Stephenson finished with 14 points, 10 rebounds and seven assists to help the Pacers pull away for good.

"I felt good coming off screens, dribbling the ball and hitting some shots," said George, who made 9 of 20 from the floor. "It's just tough running around with those guys and still having legs to make shots at the end. That's really what the toughness was."

Stephen Curry had 24 points and nine assists, and David Lee had 20 points and 12 rebounds for the streaky Warriors, who have lost four of six since winning 10 in a row.

Indiana outshot the Warriors 45.1 to 40.7 percent and out-rebounded them 52 to 45. Both teams committed 15 turnovers.

"We're right there as a team that has the potential to do some great things this year if we can figure that last, little bit of consistency out," Curry said. "We've shown in spots we have the talent to do it, we just have to find that last little piece of assertiveness against the best teams in the league."

Golden State made the Pacers work for the win.

After going down by 20 in the third quarter, Harrison Barnes hit a 3-pointer to slice Indiana's lead to 79-77 early in the fourth. The Pacers pulled away by eight before the Warriors roared back within three on Lee's free throws.

Stephenson answered with a 3-pointer to put the Pacers up 94-87. Klay Thompson followed with a swish from long range, then George Hill hit another from beyond the arc to

keep Indiana in control.

"It was like the movie 'Rocky II.' I'm not sure which guy was going to fall first. Both teams were completely exhausted," Vogel said.

The Warriors' final push ended almost as quickly as it started.

Andre Iguodala made a fade-away to trim Indiana's lead to 98-94 with less than a minute left. After Iguodala stole the ball from Hill, Curry missed a contested 3-pointer short, and the Pacers put the game away on free throws.

"We're close, but we still have work to do," said Warriors center Andrew Bogut, who had 10 points and 13 rebounds.

The Warriors entered the night having played an NBA-high 25 road games compared to 17 at home. The game began a string of five straight and nine of 11 at Oracle Arena, though Golden State's home court provided little comfort against the NBA's best.

Sparked by its defense and work-to-get-a-good-shot approach, Indiana opened a 35-21 lead at the end of the first quarter. Golden State switched to a smaller lineup to try and outrun the Pacers, who instead exploited their size inside.

After going ahead by 16 points late in the second quarter, Indiana let the Warriors creep closer thanks to a series of turnovers. The Pacers led 53-40 at the half.

Indiana came out of the break just like it did to start the game, scoring the first seven of the third quarter to take a 60-40 lead that silenced most of the announced sellout crowd of 19,596.

But Curry and Co. quickly had fans on their feet and to a fever pitch after a timeout. Curry hit a jumper, then tossed an alley-oop to Bogut before Thompson's 3-pointer started a run that brought the Warriors within eight heading to the frantic fourth quarter.

## Hawks 121, Heat 114

In Atlanta, Paul Millsap scored 26 points as the Atlanta Hawks overcame LeBron James' 30 points to beat the Miami Heat.

DeMarre Carroll added 19 points and Pero Antic had 17 for the Hawks, who snapped a nine-game losing streak in their series with the Heat.

Chris Bosh had 21 points for Miami, which was without Dwyane Wade for the second straight game.

Atlanta took its first win over Miami since Jan. 2, 2012 and its first home win in the series since Nov. 18, 2009.

## Nets 103, Knicks 80

In New York, Joe Johnson scored 25 points and Brooklyn sent the Knicks to a fourth straight loss, evening this season's New York rivalry at a game each.

Making a triumphant return



Indiana Pacers' Paul George (24) shoots over Golden State Warriors' Klay Thompson during the second half of an NBA basketball game Monday, Jan. 20, 2014, in Oakland, Calif.

from London and completing a three-game, three-country road trip, the Nets improved to 7-1 in 2014 and avenged last month's blowout loss.

Andray Blatche had 19 points and 12 rebounds, and Alan Anderson scored 15 points for the Nets.

Carmelo Anthony had 26 points and 12 rebounds for the Knicks, who beat the Nets 113-83 in Brooklyn but were hardly ever in this one. They lost on Martin Luther King Jr. Day for the fourth straight time, the last two both at home to the Nets.

## Clippers 112, Pistons 103

In Auburn Hills, Michigan, DeAndre Jordan had 16 points and 21 rebounds as Los Angeles breezed past Detroit.

Jordan made his first seven shots—almost all on dunks. Blake Griffin added 25 points and Jamal Crawford scored 26 for the Clippers, who are 6-2 since losing star point guard Chris Paul to a shoulder injury.

J.J. Redick added 20 points for Los Angeles, including two four-point plays when the Pistons fouled him beyond the arc.

Rodney Stuckey scored 29 points for Detroit and Josh Smith added 24, but the Pistons got almost nothing from their starting backcourt. Brandon Jennings went scoreless

and Kentavious Caldwell-Pope scored only six points.

## Mavericks 102, Cavaliers 97

In Cleveland, Monta Ellis scored 22 points and Shawn Marion added 18 as Dallas held off Cleveland's late rally.

Cleveland roared back from a 24-point deficit in the first half and trailed by three with 2.8 seconds remaining, but the Cavaliers were called for a five-second violation when Jarrett Jack failed to get the ball inbounds. Ellis put the game away with two free throws with 1.1 seconds left.

Kyrie Irving led Cleveland with 26 points. Luol Deng, acquired from Chicago on Jan. 7, scored 20 points in his first home game with the Cavaliers while Anderson Varejao had 18 points with 21 rebounds.

Dirk Nowitzki scored 17 points and DeJuan Blair added 13 for the Mavericks, who had six players in double figures.

## Pelicans 95, Grizzlies 92

In Memphis, Tennessee, Anthony Davis scored 21 of his 27 points in the second half and grabbed 10 rebounds to help New Orleans beat Memphis and end an eight-game losing streak.

Tyreke Evans added 15 points, 11 in the fourth quarter, and seven assists.

Brian Roberts scored 13 points and Eric Gordon finished with 12 for the short-handed Pelicans, who won for only the second time in January. Alexis Ajinca scored 10 points for New Orleans.

Zach Randolph had 23 points and a season-high 20 rebounds for the Grizzlies, who had won five straight. Courtney Lee added 19 points and Marc Gasol finished 14.

## Wizards 107, 76ers 99

In Washington, Bradley Beal had 22 points, nine rebounds and eight assists, and Marcin Gortat added 19 points and 11 rebounds, as Washington beat Philadelphia to reach .500 for the fourth time this season.

Washington has lost each of the previous times it reached .500. On Wednesday against Boston, the Wizards will try to get over .500 for the first time since they were 2-1 on Oct. 31, 2009.

Beal missed 12 of 14 shots in Saturday's loss to Detroit but snapped back to score 13 in the second quarter and help give Washington a 61-51 lead at halftime.

Michael Carter-Williams led Philadelphia, which has lost seven of eight, with 31. Thaddeus Young had 18. Spencer Hawes had 11 points

and tied his season high with 14 rebounds.

## Bobcats 100, Raptors 95

In Charlotte, North Carolina, Al Jefferson had 22 points and 19 rebounds as Charlotte held on to beat Toronto for the seventh straight time at home.

Jefferson became the first Bobcats player to have a double-double in the first quarter with 10 points and 10 rebounds, sending Charlotte to a 26-11 lead. The Bobcats stretched the lead to 30 in the third quarter but had to withstand a furious Toronto rally.

With point guard Kemba Walker out with a sprained ankle, Ramon Sessions and Jannero Pargo combined for 40 points on 10 of 17 shooting. Sessions had 23 points and was 10 of 11 from the line, including two free throws with 1.6 seconds left.

DeMar Derozan had 25 points and Kyle Lowry had 21 for the Atlantic Division-leading Raptors, who fell to .500 after their fourth straight road loss.

## Bulls 102, Lakers 100

In Chicago, Taj Gibson made a layup at the buzzer in overtime, lifting the Chicago Bulls to a victory over the Los Angeles Lakers.

With nine-tenths of a second left, Mike Dunleavy inbounded from underneath the basket and found Gibson cutting down the middle. The athletic forward then muscled toward the hoop for the winning basket, which was confirmed by a video review by the officials.

Joakim Noah had 17 points, 21 rebounds and six assists for Chicago (20-20), which has won eight of 10 to get back to .500 for the first time since Nov. 27. D.J. Augustin had a season-high 27 points, and Jimmy Butler finished with 13 points and 11 rebounds.

Nick Young had 31 points for the Lakers (16-26), including a tying baseline jumper with 6 seconds left in overtime. The streaky sub also made three free throws with 4.1 seconds left in regulation, tying it at 93.

## Rockets 126, Blazers 113

In Houston, Chandler Parsons scored a season-high 31 points and Dwight Howard added 24 points to lead the Houston Rockets to a win over Portland that snapped the Trail Blazers' five-game winning streak.

The Rockets won their second straight, building a big lead early and answering every time Portland made a run.

James Harden added 22 points and had five assists and Patrick Beverley returned from a broken hand to score 17 points. Parsons added 10 rebounds and seven assists while finishing one point shy of his career-high.

LaMarcus Aldridge had 27 points and 20 rebounds for the Trail Blazers, who have won seven of their last 11 games.



# NYC, NJ prep for Super Bowl on calm MLK Monday



**NEW YORK (AP)**—Workers hung in harnesses, putting the finishing touches on

a sponsor's billboard high above Broadway. A few blocks north, in Times Square, a three-story stage festooned with Fox Sports logos towered over the crossroads of the world.

Below, the pedestrian plazas stayed relatively calm and uncrowded—for now—beneath blinking ads, most of which referenced the Super Bowl as New York spent a mellow MLK Monday preparing to host the biggest event in sports.

The Feb. 2 championship game, between Seattle and Denver, is still almost two weeks away, and while there will be all sorts of events surrounding the game throughout the metropolitan area of nearly 20 million, the anticipation hasn't quite started to spike yet.

It takes more than a big ballgame to get New York City excited.

New Jersey, too, where everyone's still steamed up over allegations that top aides to Gov. Chris Christie orchestrated traffic jams in a northern New Jersey town, Fort Lee, by blocking off lanes to the George Washington Bridge.

Unintentional traffic jams are a concern every day in the region, let alone with an influx of visitors expected and a big game day crowd anticipated at the Meadowlands sports complex.



Workers climb scaffolding on a multi-level platform that is being constructed for a sports network in Times Square, Monday, Jan. 20, 2014, in New York.

Crowding in Times Square is always a given, too. To the point that New Yorkers make a point of avoiding the area at all costs.

But on Monday—with most people off from work for the Martin Luther King holiday and the Broncos and Seahawks basking in their conference championships back at home—most of midtown was calm.

One pocket of energy could be found in Macy's, where a temporary NFL store is set up to sell tiny Statues of Liberty splashed with Super Bowl logos, NFL

shield hats in various colors, helmets in every size from "big enough to protect a golf ball" to the real thing, and virtually anything else NFL-related.

Next week is when Broadway turns into a fan fest, concerts happen in all five boroughs—as well as New Jersey, where the game will actually be played—and LeBron James and the Heat take a rare undercard role when they visit Madison Square Garden and the Knicks.

Monday afternoon, though, workers and security guards outnumbered customers.

Imani Williamson tossed a miniature football in the air to herself and beamed at visitors as they entered Macy's. When it gets busier later, her job will be to greet fans, ask where they're from, and make them feel welcome.

Asked if she had seen any crowds yet, the 22-year old ringer on temporary Super Bowl duty said "No, not yet."

Deeper in the store, Julie Maner commanded a well trafficked corner where whimsical, cartoonish Super Bowl posters by pop artist Charles Fazzino

were on sale. She has gone to every Super Bowl since the 2003 game in San Diego representing the artist.

Usually, she says, she has a booth at the NFL Experience, a fan expo that has been modified for the New York game. Most of that event's activities will be relocated to Broadway as part of the league's "Super Bowl Boulevard" sending retailers indoors to Macy's.

Maner wasn't sure if that would help or hurt sales, but she will have more days to sell the posters, 3D decorated

helmets and other works by Fazzino - some of which cost almost as much as game tickets. On Monday, she had just sold a poster to a German couple who wanted a souvenir before returning home, but was expecting to do most of her business next week.

"The out-of-towners don't come until next week," Maner said. "I don't know if it's going to be busier than usual or lighter than usual."

A lot of that could hinge on the weather. A winter storm was in the forecast for Tuesday night, followed by high temperatures below freezing. If the weather is more pedestrian friendly next week, crowds could come out in force on Broadway. When the "Boulevard" opens, it'll feature a concert stage, a place for fans to try kicking field goals, a toboggan run, a ticket exchange for buying and selling game tickets and (of course) sponsor come-ons.

That won't be open until Wednesday, though. On Monday, the signs of the big game were fewer and farther between. Two visitors from Montreal sat outside Macy's front entrance in chairs, shopping bags at their feet. One of them, Patricia Souza, described herself as a fan of her hometown Alouettes from the CFL, but planned to watch the Super Bowl.

She said she knew the Super Bowl was coming to New York even as they planned their trip. Her friend, who would only give her name as Melissa, hadn't noticed the hype yet.

## Patriots' Belichick: Welker tried to 'take out' Talib

**FOXBOROUGH, Mass. (AP)**—The collision that knocked Aqib Talib out of the AFC championship game reverberated Monday when Patriots coach Bill Belichick said Wes Welker tried to "take out" the star cornerback.

Belichick took the shot at his former wide receiver after viewing video of the second-quarter play in the Denver Broncos' 26-16 win on Sunday. Coming from opposite sides, the players ran into each other. No penalty was called.

It "was a deliberate play by the receiver to take out Aqib, no attempt to get open," Belichick said during his opening statement at his season-ending news conference.

"I'll let the league handle the discipline on that play. It's not for me to decide, but it's one of the worst plays I've seen. That's all I'm going to say about that."

NFL spokesman Greg Aiello said Monday, "If there is any discipline for plays in (Sunday's) games, it will be

determined by Merton Hanks later in the week."

Hanks is the league's vice president of player operations.

Welker, who had a cool relationship with Belichick before leaving New England as a free agent last offseason, was not available for comment Monday.

But after the game, he said, "it was one of those plays where it's kind of a rub play and I was trying to get him to go over the top, and I think he was thinking the same thing and wanted to come underneath and we just kind of collided. ... It wasn't a deal where I was trying to hit him or anything like that."

After Talib left with a knee injury, Broncos quarterback Peyton Manning took advantage of having the much shorter Alfonzo Dennard covering receivers Talib normally would handle. The previous season, a thigh injury ended Talib's day in the first quarter of the AFC championship game, a 28-13 loss to Baltimore.

Denver coach John Fox said he hadn't seen Belichick's



New England Patriots head coach Bill Belichick smiles as he responds to a reporter's question during a media availability at the NFL football team's facility in Foxborough, Mass., Monday, Jan. 20, 2014.

comments but called Welker "a great player, high integrity. I can say that we were not doing anything with intent."

Asked why he would send the 5-foot-9 Welker, 4 inches shorter, at Talib after sustaining two recent concussions, Fox said, "That's a good question. I don't have an answer to it."

But he and several Patriots said pick plays in which one receiver brushes against or hits a defender to free another receiver are becoming more prevalent.

"Teams do a lot of that just to give guys separation and to open up the passing game," safety Devin McCourty said.

Steve Gregory, New England's other starting safety, said he didn't think Welker would deliberately try to hurt a player.

"I don't think anybody plays that way," he said, "especially at this level of football with two great football teams in the Broncos and ourselves."

Besides, Fox said, the Broncos weren't the only team to run a pick play.

"The umpire's in that area.

It's a pretty crowded area, so I think offenses have tried to exploit that," he said. "We're not the only team, by any stretch. In fact, our opponent Sunday did the same thing."

Welker, coming from the right, used his right arm to make contact with the left arm of Talib, who was running from the left to stay with his receiver. They collided a split-second before Manning's pass went off the hands of receiver Demaryius Thomas a few yards away.

Patriots defensive end Andre Carter called it a "nasty" play.

"Wes, was he doing his job? I'm sure he was to a certain degree," Carter said. "(Do) I think the hit could have been cleaner? Yes."

But Broncos tight end Julius Thomas was more concerned about preparing to face the Seattle Seahawks in the Super Bowl on Feb. 2 than about Belichick's comments.

"The thoughts and feelings of opposing coaches definitely don't bother me," he said. "We're worried about what's happening this week."



# Bouchard, Li into Australian Open semifinals

**MELBOURNE, Australia (AP)**—Eugenie Bouchard reached the semifinals in her first trip to the Australian Open, beating 2008 French Open champion Ana Ivanovic 7-5, 5-7, 6-2 on Tuesday to set up a showdown with Li Na.

The result means two-time Australian Open finalist Li, who beat Flavia Pennetta 6-2, 6-2 in an earlier quarterfinal featuring two women who'll turn 32 next month, will have to face a teenager for the third time in the tournament.

The 19-year-old Bouchard, the first Canadian to reach the Australian Open semifinals, played with real composure against former No. 1-ranked Ivanovic, who started the season with a title at Auckland, New Zealand, and produced a major upset to eliminate top-ranked Serena Williams in the fourth round here.

Bouchard went to the net 24 times and won 19 of those points. She broke Ivanovic's serve seven times, including the last game, and had to sit through a lengthy time out when she was leading 4-3 in the second set while her opponent received

treatment. Despite the relative speed of her Grand Slam success, Bouchard said she didn't experience any "pinch me" moments.

"It's something I've been doing since I was five years old and working my whole life for and sacrificing a lot of things for, so it's not exactly a surprise," she said. "I always expect myself to do well. I'm just happy to have gone through this step. I'm not done."

The WTA Tour's "Newcomer of the Year" in 2013, Bouchard is playing just her fourth Grand Slam tournament, having lost in the second round at the French Open and U.S. Open last year and reached the third round at Wimbledon—the only previous major where she'd managed back-to-back victories. The second of those was against Ivanovic—their only previous meeting.

"She's brave. She's young. She has nothing to lose," Ivanovic said. "I think she's a very great player with a bright future."

Bouchard, who will turn 20 next month, is the first Canadian woman to reach a Grand Slam semifinal since Carling Bassett



Li Na of China hits the ball to the crowd after defeating Flavia Pennetta of Italy during their quarterfinal at the Australian Open tennis championship in Melbourne, Australia, Tuesday, Jan. 21, 2014.

at the 1984 U.S. Open. Naturally, she was asked what it's like to be such a rarity in a country so passionate about one particular sport: ice hockey. "Well hopefully they'll care

a little bit more about tennis now," Bouchard said, adding that she couldn't really skate. "But I think it's growing. I'm just trying to do the best I can for myself, for the country as well."

Tomas Berdych reached his first Australian Open semifinal—completing a full set of major semifinals—when he beat No. 3-seeded David Ferrer 6-1, 6-4, 2-6, 6-4.

The 2010 Wimbledon finalist ended a streak of three consecutive quarterfinal defeats at Melbourne Park, breaking Ferrer in the fifth game of the fourth set and then fending off a break-point chance and holding the crucial subsequent game to hang on for the win.

Three-time defending champion Novak Djokovic and No. 8 Stanislas Wawrinka were to play a night match to determine who advanced to the semifinals against Berdych.

The women's semifinal was determined after the first two day matches.

Bouchard, who is from Montreal, has a growing group of supporters at Melbourne Park. After each match, fans have presented her with a different kind of stuffed, fluffy Australian

animal—she now has a kangaroo, a kookaburra, a koala and a wombat in her collection.

Li is also a crowd favorite in Australia, where she lost the finals last year to Victoria Azarenka and in 2011 to Kim Clijsters and has reached the semifinals four times in the last five years. Azarenka, the two-time defending champion, is in the other half of the draw.

Li won her only previous match against Bouchard in straight sets at Montreal in 2012.

"We had a tough battle last time, and I think I didn't have a lot of experience back then," Bouchard said. This time I think I'll be ready."

Li beat two 16-year-olds in the opening rounds and had to save a match point against Lucie Safarova in the third. Against No. 28 Pennetta, she was relentless, keeping the mistakes down while going for her winners.

"After saving the match point, I think I got a lot of confidence," Li said of her close call in the third round. "Even more belief in myself."

Li lost her serve just once—while leading 5-0 in the opening set—and finished off the 67-minute match with an easy forehand to the open court.

## IT&E

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an IT&E rally in the third inning, moving his squad within one after falling behind, 0-7, in the first two and a half innings. Two more runs off passed balls at the bottom of the fourth put IT&E on top, 8-7, and it completed the come-from-behind win with a seven-run rush in the fifth, while Laolao managed only one run in the last three innings to miss a 2-0 start.

## BRAVES

From Page 28

run apiece in the fifth and sixth. Both runs came off errors and the Fielders were held to two hits and had a walk with A.J. Evangelista on the mound for the Braves, replacing Lifofoi.

Evangelista pitched 5.2 innings and had four strikeouts, including the last two that wrapped up the match. He also got a run in the fifth inning off Tenorio's double, while the latter made it home, too after a Fielders' error, and the Braves

### IP&E Rockies 15, Twins 1

IP&E Rockies bounced back from its debut loss with a lopsided win over the GSM Twins in the second game.

Tyrese Camacho anchored the Rockies victory, as he threw a no-hitter in a no relief job. Camacho pitched in four innings and had 12 strikeouts, including three straight at the top of the fourth inning to end the game early.

The ace pitcher also went 3-for-3 at bat and scored three runs and two singles for IP&E

Rockies, which blew the game wide open in the second inning after tallying eight runs. First baseman Dai Podziewski contributed in the breakaway with his two-run base hit, as IT&E opened a 11-0 advantage after two complete innings.

The Twins avoided a shutout when they lit up the scoreboard at the top of the third inning with Peter Guerrero reaching home off an error at third base.

### Comets I 13, Ol'Aces 1

The first game last Monday also

ended in a rout with Comets I trouncing the Ol'Aces.

Vincent Nakamura flirted with a no-hitter to power Comets I to an impressive debut. Nakamura pitched four innings and collected eight strikeouts, missing a no-hitter when he gave up a single to Kazuki Aguon at the bottom of the fourth. Aguon's base hit also produced the Ol'Aces' lone run in the game, as he brought leadoff batter Jordan Babauta home.

With Comets I and the Ol'Aces playing their first

game of the season, both teams showed some rust in the first inning as they failed to score. Comets I centerfielder Francisco Frederick missed going at-bat in the opening inning, as his team was done after only four batters (he was eighth in the batting order), but made the most of his next three stints at the plate. He had an RBI single in the second, hit a two-run double in the third, and made it all the way to home in the fourth off a walk, wild throw, and passed balls.

### Red Sox 6, Enforcers 2

In the last game in the opening day of the Senior League, the Red Sox outclassed the DARE Enforcers.

Jhace Palacios pitched in no relief for the Red Sox in seven innings and after struggling in the first three innings he held strong in the last four to help his team with their debut game. Palacios gave up only two hits and no runs in the last two innings and earned three strikeouts. The Red Sox pitcher also drew support from their outfielders, as the

team caught six flies in the four-inning shutout.

Before going cold, the Enforcers managed to score in the second and third inning off Jon Sagun's sacrifice fly and a catcher error, but still faced a 2-5 deficit. The Red Sox took the lead early, 3-0, behind Palacios' two-run single and Vincent Leon Guerrero's RBI single at the top of the first. E.J. Castro also had a two-run single in the third inning, while Jose Reyes scored the team's last run off Henry Lizama's base hit.

bagged another run from their foe's booboo to end the fight with a 6-2 lead.

### Jets 16, Lions 0

In the second game, the Jets ran over the Lions, finishing the one-sided game two innings early.

The Jets utilized three pitchers against the Lions and held their foes to only one hit. Jesse Brel, Nathan Camacho, and Kenji Yamagata combined for 10 strikeouts for the Jets. With the Jets pitchers playing steady on the match and the rest of the

team's defense holding on, the Lions made it to as far as third base only once. Carry Camacho moved to first off a Jets short-stop error and reached third after their foes committed two more miscues, but was stranded there, as Brel struck out Jesse Kalen for the third out.

The Jets complemented their solid defense with consistent offense, as they scored 10 earn runs. Yamagata went 3-for-4 for the Jets and had two RBIs, while K.J. Deleon Guerrero also added RBIs off a 3-for-5 performance at bat.

## ROLLERS

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Against Rollers 5, Arciaga also top-scored for Rollers 1, finishing with 20 points. He connected on four triples, as Rollers 1 engaged Rollers 5 in a 3-point shooting with the former hitting 9 against the latter's 8.

Factor had one of those triples in the first half, but his big contribution came down the stretch

when he scored 4 of Rollers 1's last 6 points.

Ylac Caracut converted five triples, making three straight in the closing minutes to threaten Rollers 1. He finished with a team-high 17 points, as Rollers 5 still searches for its first win after dropping its first seven games.

Meanwhile, Angelo Factor hit two free throws and scored 4 of Rollers 3's last 5 points to oil Rollers 4's upset bid.

Factor came to Rollers 3's rescue after Rollers 4 came back from a double-digit deficit at halftime, 21-31. Christian Morales helped Factor spoiled Rollers 4's bid, hitting timely baskets in the second half and firing a team-high 24 points.

### SATURDAY First Game

**Rollers 1 64**—Arciaga 20, Yu 11, Camacho 10, Factor 7, Pangelinan 6, Cayading 4, Ano 4.

**Rollers 5 59**—Caracut 17, Ogomoro 13, Yu 13, Alonzo 8, Cobacha 4, Dela Cruz 2, Tengco 2.

**Scoring by halves:** 32-25, 64-59.

### Second Game

**Rollers 3 64**—Morales 24, Francisco 17, Cruz 8, Factor 4, Rios 3, Amog 2, Dancoe 2, De Luna 1.

**Rollers 4 62**—Kwon 27, Deocares 3, Ellama 11, Santos

4, Iba 3, Bucayo 2.

**Scoring by halves:** 31-21, 64-62.

### FRIDAY

**Rollers 1 61**—Arciaga 18, Camacho 17, Factor 13, Ano 6, Iglecias 3, Yu 2, Malonzo 2.

**Rollers 1 60**—Mendoza 20, Fidelino 18, Espinosa 7, Darag 4, Lee 4, Cenir 3, Capuyon 3, Subang 2.

**Scoring by halves:** 23-30, 61-60.

## TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

### NBA STANDINGS

#### EASTERN CONFERENCE Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	20	20	.500	—
Brooklyn	17	22	.436	2½
New York	15	26	.366	5½
Boston	14	28	.333	7
Philadelphia	13	28	.317	7½

#### Southeast Division

Miami	29	12	.707	—
Atlanta	21	19	.525	7½
Washington	20	20	.500	8½
Charlotte	18	25	.419	12
Orlando	11	30	.268	18

#### Central Division

Indiana	33	7	.825	—
Chicago	20	20	.500	13
Detroit	17	24	.415	16½
Cleveland	15	26	.366	18½
Milwaukee	7	33	.175	26

#### WESTERN CONFERENCE Southwest Division

San Antonio	32	9	.780	—
Houston	28	15	.651	5
Dallas	25	18	.581	8
Memphis	20	20	.500	11½
New Orleans	16	24	.400	15½

#### Northwest Division

Portland	31	10	.756	—
Oklahoma City	31	10	.756	—
Denver	20	20	.500	10½
Minnesota	19	21	.475	11½
Utah	14	28	.333	17½

#### Pacific Division

L.A. Clippers	29	14	.674	—
Golden State	26	17	.605	3
Phoenix	23	17	.575	4½
L.A. Lakers	16	26	.381	12½
Sacramento	14	25	.359	13

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



# 2014 Reverse Co-Ed Grass Volleyball Tournament

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Old Timers' Tyce Mister goes up for a hit during his and Heather Kennedy's winner's bracket semis game against John Nekaifes and Chenny Lizama in the 2014 Reverse Co-Ed Grass Volleyball Tournament last Saturday at the Navy Hill court.



Loco Moco's Linda Anastacio uses one hand to return the ball, while teammate Gabriel White stands by.



Siyasi's Chenny Lizama tries to block a shot from Old Timers' Heather Kennedy, while John Nekaifes stays back on defense.



Old Timers' Heather Kennedy makes a return near the sideline, while teammate Tyce Mister looks on.



Old Timers' Tyce Mister and Heather Kennedy stay down to receive a shot from Siyasi's John Nekaifes.



Siyasi's John Nekaifes bends down to receive the ball.



MSQ's Clay McCullough-Stearns receives a serve from Loco Moco's Gabriel White.



MSQ's Somia Quan serves.





**Pacers win 5th straight, hold off Warriors, 102-94**  
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# Saipan Tribune Sports

**NYC and NJ prep for Super Bowl on calm MLK Monday**  
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28 WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2014

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

## IT&E takes early lead in Major division



By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
An IT&E batter makes contact with the ball during the bottom of the fifth inning of their game against Laolao Bay in the Major division of the 2014 Saipan Little League Baseball last Monday at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

IT&E bagged its second straight win in the Major division of the 2014 Saipan Little League Baseball after a 15-8 triumph against Laolao Bay last Monday at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

With its 2-0 record, IT&E grabbed the early lead in the 15-team field, ahead of the Falcons, Braves, Hustlers, Red Sox, and Comets I, which have similar 1-0 slates. Completing the field are IP&E Rockies (1-1), Laolao Bay (1-1), McDonald's (0-1), Little Legals (0-1), JPO Enforcers (0-1), Comets II (0-1), Jets (0-1), and the OI' Aces (0-1).

Laolao fell to an even 1-1 card after choking at the bottom of the fifth inning, which started with IT&E ahead by only one, 8-7. IT&E managed to take a sizeable lead after

five complete innings when it capitalized on Laolao's pitching errors. It gained three runs on passed balls and four earned, including a two-run triple from catcher Spencer Dickinson.

Dickinson went on to have a perfect performance at the plate, going 4-for-4. He made the first homer of the season in the third inning, bringing home two runners with him. He also had a double and a single in the first and fourth inning, respectively.

Dickinson's homer sparked  
**See IT&E on Page 26**



## Rollers 1, 3 pace Sun Palace caging



By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

Rollers 1 gained two more wins over the weekend to keep its share of the lead with Rollers 3 in the boys division contest in the 2013 Sun Palace Christmas Basketball Tournament.

Rollers 1 edged Rollers 2, 61-60, last Friday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium and then d o w n e d Rollers 5, 64-59, last Saturday to improve to a 7-1 record.

Rollers 3 has the same mark, following a 64-62 triumph over Rollers 4. The copacesetters lead Rollers 2 (6-2), FTMP (3-4), Rollers 4 (3-5), Dream Team (0-6), and Rollers 5 (0-7), pending results of last Monday's matches.

Prince Factor canned a pair of free throws in the closing seconds to lift Rollers 1 to the close win, while Mike Arciaga delivered big baskets that helped the team recover in the second half. Rollers 1 was down by 7 points at the break, 23-30, but bounced back with Arciaga dropping 14 of his 18 points in the second half.

**See ROLLERS on Page 26**

Rollers 1's Toshi Pangelinan pulls up for a shot against Rollers 5's Jude Tengco during their first round meeting in the Sun Palace caging at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

## Braves hand Fielders debut loss



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The NSA Braves sing the CNMI anthem during the opening ceremony of the 2014 Saipan Little League Baseball last Friday at Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

Last year's finalists kicked off action in the Senior League of the 2014 Saipan Little League Baseball with runner-up NSA Braves stunning defending champion Fielders, 6-3, last Sunday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

The Braves, which lost to the Tan Siu Lin Foundation-

backed Fielders in last season's finale, 4-8, won its early rematch against the latter after scoring three runs apiece in the fourth and fifth inning and giving up no earned runs to the defending champions.

After both teams went without runs in the first three innings, the Braves broke their silence at the top of the fourth, thanks to M.J. Sakisat's two-run single and J.J. Lifofoi's RBI

single. Lifofoi brought lead-off batter Roke Tenorio home, while Sakisat's hit helped Logan Martin and the former scored.

The Fielders answered with only one run at the bottom of the fourth with Mike Muna stealing base and this could not spark a rally in the last three innings, as the defending champions were also limited to one

**See BRAVES on Page 26**